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VOICE

DORDT COLLEGE

JUNE, 1996
VOLUME 41 NUMBER 4

Learning while doing

Junior theatre major is college sound designer

Sally Jongsma

Four years ago Cory Kent never dreamed he'd be a theatre major. Music was his love, playing in a Christian rock band his goal. Encouraged by his pastor Rev. Henry Reyenga ('84), Kent visited Dordt during the summer before his senior year. He met with a music professor and an English professor and visited KDCR, the college radio station. He also met with theatre professor John Hofland, who was looking to recruit someone in sound design. When he left campus, Kent still expected to come to Dordt, major in music, work at the radio station, and find a band to play in.

As a new Christian and part of a new Christian Reformed seeker church on the south side of Chicago, Kent had been an integral part of the music ministry in his church. He was not only part of a band that led the congregation in worship, but also wrote music for services and special occasions.

Kent liked what he saw on that visit. "It just clicked," he said. "I never applied anywhere else. I wanted a smaller school where I could get involved in music and develop my gifts, as I had been able to do in my church."

Hofland recognized Kent's talent and kept in contact with him through the summer. He introduced Kent to the field of sound design, and through encouragement and some prodding, Kent was intrigued enough to explore the field.

Today he is the primary sound designer for Dordt's theatre productions and plans to pursue graduate studies in that area. He has come to see the importance of Christians working in theatre. At the same time he continues to take courses in music theory, history, and composition to build a broad knowledge of music and musical styles that he will need for sound design.

"The job prospects in sound design are appealing and not as risky as those of a performer," Kent says. His new career goal seems a wonderful blend of many things he loves: composing, performing, mixing and shaping sound, and working with performers and artists.

Sound design used to be known as sound effects in theatre. It was often added at the end, after everything else was basically set. Today it is a much more integral part of the whole production process.

"Early on I sit down with the director to talk about which direction I should head," says Kent. For example, in last fall's production of



Cory Kent is combining theatre and his love of music for a career in sound design.

Shakespeare's "Comedy of Errors," Kent met with director Simon du Toit shortly after reading the script. Du Toit had already decided to set the play in the 1920s, sketched other ideas he had for the show, and told Kent where he envisioned sound.

Kent's job was to add his ideas to du Toit's and then make the director's vision come alive in as lively and original way as possible. To do that he goes to the Theatre and Music Digital Studio (TAMDIS) in the lower level of the music building. TAMDIS offers several software programs that allow faculty and students to listen to, learn about, or compose music. With *Encore*, Kent can play something on the keyboard, watch the notes appear on the screen in notation, replay and edit it. Using *Vision* he can sequence sections of a piece, touch it up, highlight one instrument, make certain notes longer or shorter, or use any of a hundred other options to create the sound needed to fit the play.

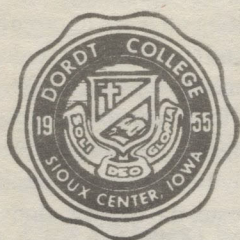
As sound designer at Dordt, Kent doesn't just choose from an existing repertoire, he

composes and arranges music to fit a particular production. He generally writes the pre-show music as well as the score for scene changes and the segments that underscore the action of the play. He also records and tapes any other sound effects needed for the production.

But that is only one part of the job. The technical expertise needed to run the sound is complicated. Kent works with DAT tapes, CDs, and cassettes, organizing the cues so that each is accessible at the right time. He then runs the mixer board with everything cued for the performance.

"I found out when I visited the graduate school in sound design at Purdue that most people don't both write music and do the technical work," Kent says. But for now he hopes to continue doing both. "Even after everything is written, there's a lot you can do to control how the audience hears the sound in an auditorium during the performance," he says.

Kent is appreciative of the education he is
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Mr. Dordt - Howard Hall - retires

Kent credits profs with important mentoring

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receiving in Dordt's theatre department. That appreciation increased this summer when he visited Purdue's sound design program.

During the visit he talked with a professor, who, when he heard what he'd done and that he came from the same school as Dordt and Purdue alum Barry Funderburg ('92), took an active interest in him.

"I was originally a little nervous about whether my Dordt education would put me behind technically," Kent says. "But undergrads at Purdue aren't even allowed to touch the equipment. They're submerged in technology but have no opportunity to use it." Kent on the other hand is already doing things the graduate students are.

"I felt so qualified," he says, adding, "It gave me a tremendous amount of respect for Simon du Toit and John Hofland and made me realize that this experience is not normally found."

Purdue's program admits only twelve people and is geared to the artist rather than the technician. After Kent's visit he was asked to submit a tape and a resume so they could keep track of him. He is hopeful that he will be one of those twelve.

Kent has another year at Dordt, but he's not afraid of moving on. His background and deep conviction that the working of the Holy Spirit in his life will direct his efforts push him forward.

"I initially rejected some Christian Reformed themes as a freshman," he says,

"But the truth that this world is God's is so crucial. Before I just wanted to be a Christian doing music, now I believe I have business being in theatre."

He credits his theatre history courses with giving him the tools to see context and form judgments, to ask questions like who is Beckett and why does he write like this. Being grounded in a Christian worldview is like jumping into the water but keeping

your hand on the dock, says Kent, paraphrasing his professors.

Kent says that God has continually put important mentors in his path who have given direction to his life. His theatre professors have been such mentors.

"It's been incredible here," he says. "The theatre profs are friends and mentors who respect and encourage me. I can't thank them enough."

PEW Roundtable discusses change

The PEW Roundtable came to Dordt's campus this spring. Dordt College was invited to participate in PEW's national laboratory to test various approaches to academic restructuring.

The Roundtable brings to campus an outside facilitator who leads a discussion with twenty to twenty-five campus participants on important issues in higher education, particularly as they come to light on our campus. In general, the Roundtable aims to stimulate discussions that will help institutions improve the quality of their education, contain their costs, and sustain the values that define their particular learning communities.

"Several times over the last few years people have indicated that we just don't have the time to talk about basic challenges facing the institution," says vice president for academic affairs Rockne McCarthy. "This gave a structured way to have a helpful campus conversation."

"We had a particularly good discussion on the meaning of change," says McCarthy. "Change doesn't just mean more." It also doesn't happen only when

things are "broke." Renewal, substituting, refocusing, and revising are all important components of healthy growth in an institution.

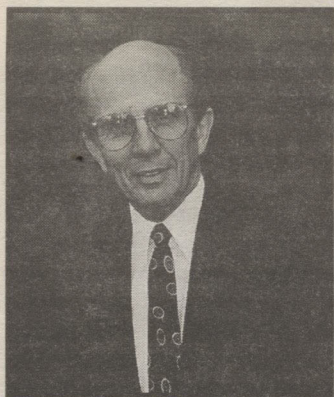
As a Roundtable participant, Dordt also became part of a broader conversation within higher education through the leadership of their facilitator Anne Duffield.

"She brought to bear her knowledge of what she's learned in other Roundtables about issues in education and about what is happening at other institutions," McCarthy adds.

Based on the conversations, Duffield summarized several issues that she felt Dordt could address further. She will meet with the committee once more to reflect on the conclusions reached and to decide how to proceed from here.

President-elect Dr. Carl Zylstra also attended the meetings, giving him the opportunity to understand what members of the campus Roundtable consider the important issues facing the institution. Such a background will make it easier for him to be drawn into the action steps that will grow out of the conversations.

President's pen



Dr. J. B. Hulst

During the past academic year Dordt's participation in the PEW Roundtable brought together the leadership of the college—board members, faculty, students, and administrators—along with a facilitator, to discuss the most efficient and effective ways to provide students with a high quality academic program.

The Roundtable consisted primarily of two day-long sessions. In the second session we spent time talking about the importance of trust in an academic community, especially a Christian academic community. At one point in the discussion I observed that Dordt could not perform its academic task without a trust relationship between faculty and administration. My comments produced a number of varied reactions, one of them a question: "But what about the students? Are they not also an essential part of the Dordt community?"

What about the students? That was a good question. It clearly was a mistake for me to neglect the students in my remarks about the importance of trust in the Christian academic community. The question also triggered in my mind a series of somewhat random thoughts that reflect the central place of students in the life of an institution such as Dordt College.

The college was established in response to a request from Classis Ostfriesland of the Christian Reformed Church that a junior college be organized to give "young people" a Christian education. The classis, now called Classis Northcentral Iowa, went on to observe that such education should be Christian "not merely in the sense that devotional exercises are appended to the ordinary work of the college, but in the larger and deeper sense that all the class work, all the students' intellectual, emotional, and imaginative activities shall be

permeated with the spirit and teaching of Christianity."

Dordt's statement of purpose recognizes that students, along with the board, faculty, administration, staff, and the president, are called to share in the educational task of the college. As office-bearers they are required

to advance the educational enterprise by acquiring, contributing to, and serving as the agents for the transmission of insight from its theoretical beginnings to concrete applications. (*The Educational Task of Dordt College*, p. 9)

In its 1989 strategic planning report, "Renewing the Vision," Dordt sets five and ten year goals for the recruitment and retention of students. In the face of a predicted enrollment decline, and in recognition of the importance of student numbers for the development and realization of institutional plans, the college set for itself the challenging goals of 1200 students by 1995-96 and 1500 by the year 2000-01. Since setting these goals it has spent much time, effort and money—including money for student financial aid—in successfully reaching the goal for 1995-96 and will, no doubt, continue to do so as it works toward the goal for 2000-01.

And, once the students are brought to campus, what is the purpose of their education? *The Educational Task of Dordt College* states clearly that

As an institution of higher learning, Dordt College . . . desires to be an institution of Christian learning for the benefit of both the attending student body and the entire Christian community, so that the Lord's kingdom may come to greater expression.

(page 8)

The same emphasis on the student is found in the closing sentence of the purpose statement:

. . . all of which is designed to provide the student with serviceable insight, i.e., wisdom according to the mind of Christ. (page 16)

Often, when reflecting on ways to promote the college, we are reminded that our students are the best advertisements for the college. When they go out on tours, participate in service projects or internships, the response to their attitude and activity is generally positive. And when they graduate, the qualifications and life style of our students usually recommend them and Dordt's reformational academic program.

I'm writing this article the week following graduation. It's still busy on campus, but most of the students are gone. Already we miss them and look forward to their return the last week in August. The campus isn't the same without them. In fact, if people want to visit campus we often suggest that they wait until the students are back. Why? Of course, because students are essential to life on the campus of Dordt College.

Since I am about to retire as the president of the college, I have often been asked in recent months what it is that I will miss the most when I leave. Almost automatically my response has been: "The students."

In just a few weeks my wife and I will move off campus. We will miss Dordt College, especially the students. And we will continue to support and pray for Dordt College—the board, faculty, administration, and the new president—but especially the students.

Often, we are reminded that our students are the best advertisements for the college.

A semester in Latin America

Dawn Bakker

I'd read about and discussed poverty and the many other problems facing Central America. But in the last few months, I went beyond book learning and actually experienced a little of Latin American reality.

Thirty-four students from colleges throughout the United States, each a member of the Coalition of Christian Colleges and Universities, spent their second semester in Costa Rica. We were a varied group, including students majoring in Spanish, biology, and even physical education. Together we experienced a new culture and began to look at our home countries in a new light as we learned about Central American history from the perspective of the underdog. Living with families in San Jose forced us to practice the Spanish we were learning in classes. Home comforts and supports were stripped away, and we had to adjust to loud, exhaust-pumping buses and bold, curious stares as we walked down city streets.

Six weeks into the semester, we visited Nicaragua for ten days. As our bus rattled into the capital city, Managua, I found it hard to imagine that this quiet city was once the site of terrible guerrilla warfare. The day we went to the market, however, I caught a glimpse of a half-hidden war. Hunger is winning the battle in poor, dirty, barefoot children who wander from table to table searching for food. With more than seventy percent unemployment, Nicaragua is in a crisis of immense proportions. We could neither ignore it nor deny it; children came up to us begging for money, and women in the marketplace were desperate to sell us food or souvenirs. For us it was a game—What should I buy?—but for them it was a matter of life and death.

In Guatemala near the end of the semester, we quietly listened while an indigenous woman softly recounted days of terror. While hugging her granddaughter close and without looking up, she spoke of the year 1982 when her husband was taken by soldiers for political reasons and never seen again. She was left with six little children to raise alone and with yet unanswered questions for and about her husband.

Another woman had intended to come and speak to us but was unable to, and after hearing her story I was fiercely glad she couldn't come. She and her mother and siblings were cruelly raped by soldiers, after which she watched the soldiers kill each member of her family. I was glad she didn't have to go through the pain of remembering the experience over again—although I am sure she relives it often enough.

Hundreds of women were widowed because of political violence in Guatemala. As we sat listening, I cried inside for the women but also for students, myself included, who could calmly listen to the women talk and then move on to view ancient Mayan ruins, leaving the women with gaping memories of horror and broken dreams. How could we be so cold?

In the past I've referred to myself as an idealist. I like to look at the bright side of things; I like to be an optimist. But perhaps I also tend to look at the world through the rosy glow of youth and privilege. In many ways, my semester in Costa Rica was a reality check. Most Latin American countries lack even the most basic infrastructure, including educational systems and medical care.

Extensive foreign investment and historical foreign interventions have resulted in exploitation and domination of the people. A "strong man" caudillo attitude persists in government and church life, making dictatorships an uncomfortably close phenomenon. Blatant inequality in land distribution means a minority of people are extremely wealthy while the vast majority live in poverty. Lack of an ecological consciousness and in some cases lack of alternatives leads to water contamination and deforestation.

In the midst of such grim conditions, Central America has some of the most extensive tropical forests in the world. Eight of us spent five weeks exploring the rich variety of habitats and vegetation, hiking in high elevation cloud forests and lowland rain forests, standing on a bed of volcanic rock, snorkeling along a rocky shoreline of the Pacific, and sweltering in the heat of the flat tropical dry forest. Even in the midst of so much beauty, we were never far from the pain. Looking out over the rolling hills cloaked in forest, bare patches dotted the landscape—areas where trees had been cut to provide pastureland for cattle or where peasants were driven in desperation to clear land for food. Driving across Costa Rica, we drove through hundreds of acres of banana plantations, "green deserts" and a reminder of foreign investment and control in the economy.

Amidst the harsh reality of Latin America, we saw some small signs of hope. Volunteers from the Mennonite Central Committee discussed appropriate technology such as improved cook stoves and dry decomposition latrines for better efficiency and sanitation. Members of awareness agencies spoke of their fight to keep consciousness of injustices alive in the hopes that such things will not happen again. A poor community in Nicaragua shared music and dance with us, the center itself a beacon of light with its bright murals painted by students and teens. For two weeks, I lived in a model of sustainability, a community where an alternative to



Dawn Bakker's semester in Latin America helped her see the culture from a different perspective.

deforestation had been found in the planting of orchards and the development of an eco-tourist program. We fellowshiped with members of the church in Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Nicaragua, Christians from radically different backgrounds and circumstances but one in Christ.

Throughout the semester, I myself was wrestling with the issue of a Christian response to poverty. I struggled to understand what a "simple lifestyle" means in the context of North American materialism and consumerism, often frightened by the implications of my thoughts but needing to address the issue. At the same time I came to the conclusion that a spirit of gratitude is essential for us as Christians. And I kept reminding myself of words given me by our program director in a conversation, that as Christians, we are not called to be successful—we are called to be faithful.

I have come back from my Central American experience somewhat disillusioned after seeing some of the corruption and poverty and effects of foreign policies. The problems are bigger than I imagined, the result of sin at structural and individual levels in both Central and North America. Despite attempts being made to meet the needs in Central America, I have no all-encompassing solutions to offer and a lot more questions than I did before I left. But one question becomes ever more insistent in my mind: it is the Father's inquiry, "My child, what have you done?"

The problems are bigger than I imagined, the result of sin at structural and individual levels in both Central and North America.

Seniors design some creative machines

Dawn Bakker

Each year, fourth-year engineering students get a taste of what it is like to work as an engineer. In addition to taking the usual classes, each senior participates in a senior design project. As this year's results show, creativity is a crucial component of the projects. The seniors presented their projects a few weeks ago, displaying the result of months of planning, researching, and experimenting.

Doug Ribbens and Byron Ling designed a solution calorimeter. You may recall making a makeshift calorimeter in a long-ago chemistry class using styrofoam cups. The idea of Ribbens and Ling's calorimeter is similar but much more accurate. An insulated tank with thermocouples and stirrers determines exactly how much heat a certain chemical reaction produces.

Tom Vander Wilt and Ron Breukelman continued work on a previous project, a human-powered vehicle. Vander Wilt and Breukelman experimented with lean steering, attaching the steering below the seat to a mechanism that causes the frame to lean when the vehicle turns around corners. The two seniors had to determine how much the vehicle should lean, but calculations were complicated by the extra weight resulting from added mechanics.

Nelvin Brons and Nancy Pine designed an attachment for screw-guns which are often used on sheet-rock and corrugated metal. Their automatic screw-gun feeder allows screws to be driven at a much faster rate, increasing efficiency.

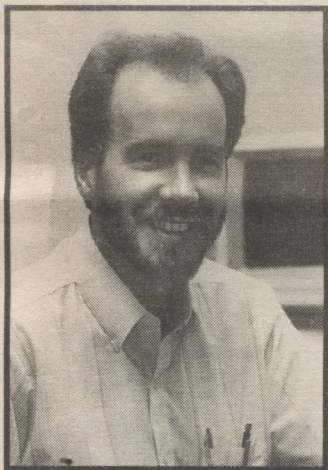
Jonathan Hoogland and Matt Perkins modified a refrigerator to make it less energy consumptive. To avoid using a high availability energy source when it is not necessary, Hoogland and Perkins pulled cold air from outside to cool the refrigerator during the winter months. Although the design doesn't end up saving a lot of money, its stewardly use of energy demonstrates a Christian understanding of the relationship between engineering and resources, says Dr. Doug De Boer.

Jeremy Van Essen and Vince Hursh's design project was definitely the most conspicuous. Their "Trucket," a modified pickup with a shovel on the front, is a familiar sight in the East Campus parking lot at Dordt. The Trucket is similar to a skid-loader but can also be used as a plow. Its strongest feature, says De Boer, is its versatility. Van Essen and Hursh entered their design project in the Old Guard Competition to be held in Omaha the first weekend in May. They hope to follow in the path of last year's graduate, Wendy Schiebout, and earn a trip to the national competition next fall.



Dordt students shine at Model Arab League

“
They may not like the
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Professor Hubert Krygsman

“
Our students prepared
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dominated the debate.”

Dordt students came away with over half of the awards given at this spring's Great Plains Region Model League of Arab States held in early April. In addition to receiving three out of six Best Delegate awards, a Dordt team also earned the Best Delegation Award for their representation of the country of Libya.

The Model League helps college students learn about international diplomacy. Dordt was one of nine colleges that participated and fielded three teams representing Bahrain, Libya, and Sudan.

A team of five students represents each country, with one person assigned to each of five working committees. The committees focus on Palestinian affairs, economics, security, politics, and society and culture, and present resolutions to be adopted by the League.

The debates were often intense and energetic as students tried to play their countries as realistically as possible. Doing so took a tremendous amount of preparation.

"The students were very well prepared," says Professor Hubert Krygsman, who helped the students get ready for the three-day event in conjunction with his course in Middle East history.

They spent a great deal of time researching their countries, working extensively on the Web. Using the Web taught them to think critically, says Krygsman, because they dug up alternative sources that did not always match the more readily available sources of information.

Communication professor Charles Veenstra, who has a long-time interest in Palestinian affairs and traveled to Palestine last summer, also worked with Krygsman and the students.

"It was a tremendous cross cultural experience," Veenstra says. "They began to argue like Arabs after three days." It gets them out of their North American mindset for a few days, giving them a different picture of the Middle East situation.

"They may not like the Hesbullah any better at the end of the time, but they understand why the current conflict has arisen," says Veenstra.

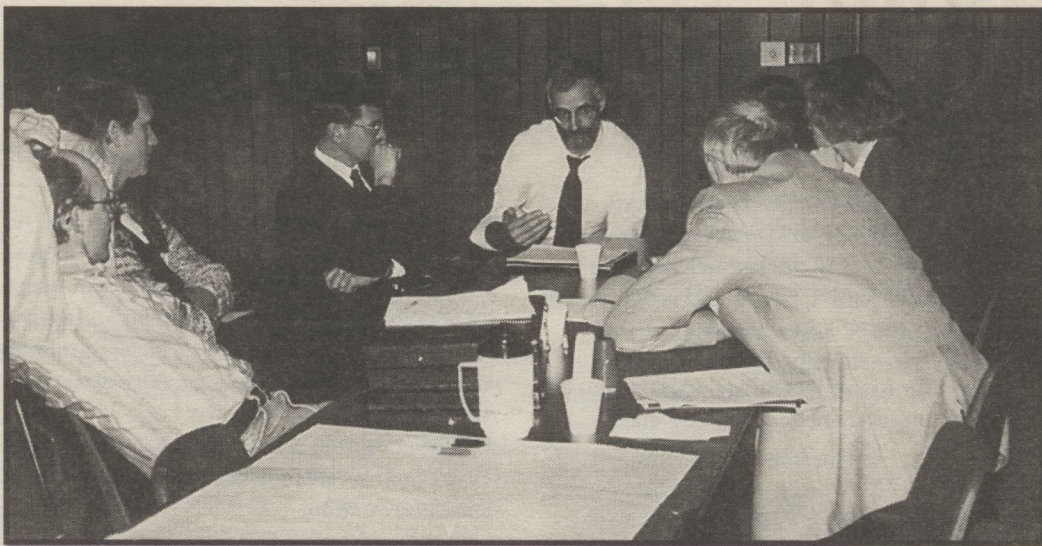
And Krygsman adds, "They were amazed to learn that one of Colonel Khaddafi's main concerns is to work out a modern Islamic socialism, that he is not just a wild-eyed dictator, but someone trying to bring a broader Muslim unity."

The league taught students other valuable lessons. Even those who did not know much about parliamentary procedure when they arrived, knew a great deal by the time they left. They found the debates and the preparation for them exciting ways to learn. And they developed some interesting friendships with students from other colleges who had similar interests.

They also learned to work in committee--when to compromise and when to hold firm, how to hammer out mutually acceptable solutions to problems. And they gained self-confidence.

"Our students prepared so well that they really dominated the debate," says Krygsman.

Although the Middle East history class out of which this year's team grew will not meet next year, the students have already decided which country they want to represent at next year's Model League.



School teams worked with resource person, Robert Koole, from British Columbia.

Eighteen school teams participate in assessment conference

Fourteen years ago Dordt College began the BJ Haan Education Conference to honor the work of its first president the former Rev. B.J. Haan. The conferences were planned to encourage the ongoing development of Christian education.

Public presentations and internos sessions between teachers and resource persons examined such core issues as "What is Christian teaching?" and "How Do Children Learn?"

This year Dordt's Center for Educational Services gave the conference a new format and a new focus. Taking advantage of the climate of change that is sweeping through the educational community, the Center decided to help orchestrate a school improvement project that would give schools some practical ways to evaluate what they are doing and what they want to do.

Eighteen schools from Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Washington, Minnesota, and Colorado responded to the invitation to do a self-evaluation and then participate in a conference titled "From Vision to Practice: Living Your Mission." Led by British Columbia curriculum coordinator Robert Koole and Calvin education professor Gloria Goris Stronks, teams of teachers from the eighteen schools spent two days on Dordt's campus, using the self-evaluation information they had brought to develop an action plan

for improving the curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment in their school.

The conference work was not a one-time spurt of enthusiasm, however. Local schools from Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota will have the opportunity to follow up on their action plans at this fall's annual Tri-State Teachers' Institute. Next year's B.J. Haan Conference will also give school teams an opportunity to build on what they did this year, although participation next year will not depend on attendance this year.

Dr. John Van Dyk, director of Dordt's Center for Educational Services, hopes to increase the number of schools who send teams of teachers next spring. Based on comments of this year's attendees, it should not be too difficult to get many to return. One wrote, "It was very practical and provided a setting for use in our school." Another wrote, "It helped us better define what we were doing in our school and also reinforced what we are doing." And still another wrote, "It made us rethink how we are using our vision."

One teacher concluded, "I am confident that our school will see visible results." Another, "I should have worked harder to get staff members to come along." Maybe they will next year.

Campus Capsules

Hay Expo

The Dordt College Agriculture Stewardship Center and neighboring farmer George Bierma will host the 1996 Farm Progress Hay Expo on June 26. The Hay Expo is the largest outdoor forage show in the midwest, says the magazine *Wallace's Farmer*, who sponsors the annual event. Each year the expo attracts more than seventy-five exhibitors of equipment and other related demonstrations. Visitors examine forage plots and attend seminars. This year's planners expect 5000 to 7000 visitors.

Worship Conference

"Toward a More Profound Alleluia: Nurturing Worship in Your Congregation" was the title of this year's expanded spring conference for pastors and others interested in worship and liturgy.

Dr. James C. Schaap opened the conference on Monday evening by reading stories that have been published in *Reformed Worship*. On Tuesday John D. Witvliet explored a Reformed theology of worship, looking at Calvin's writings on worship and suggesting some implications for preaching, music, art,

and order of worship. Rev. Duane Kelderman outlined the characteristics of contemporary North American culture, observing how these have shaped worship today.

Witvliet and Kelderman presented a variety of examples and resources for worship committees and leaders. They emphasized a balanced approach that incorporates different styles but is biblically centered. Both decried the worship wars waging in some churches today, urging that worship is a matter of the heart.

In the question and answer session following the presentations, several questions focused on music and the tension it has brought to congregations. Kelderman said that part of the problem is learning to deal with conflict and called for strong leadership by elders and ministers. For churches in this situation, he suggested agreeing to worship "in the center," possibly doing more acappella singing rather than embrace a strongly "traditional" or "contemporary" style.

The conference ended on a worshipful note as Witvliet led in a concluding time of worship. Conference participants left with plenty of ideas to reflect on and share with fellow church members.

Junior selected for journalism institute

Dordt College student Sonya Jongsma of Sioux Center is one of fifteen students selected from across North America for the Summer Institute of Journalism in Washington D.C. The four-week intensive workshop for future journalists is sponsored by the Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), an association of ninety liberal arts institutions in the United States and Canada.

Funded by a grant from Fieldstead and Company, this "Capstone in the Capital" will engage students in seminars with media professionals and field trips to wire services and media outlets. Students will be enrolled in a journalistic "boot camp," completing news gathering, writing, and editing assignments for submission to publications. More than seventeen professional journalists—representing newspapers, wire services, magazines, radio and TV—will be presenting their areas of expertise as well as their commitment as Christians.

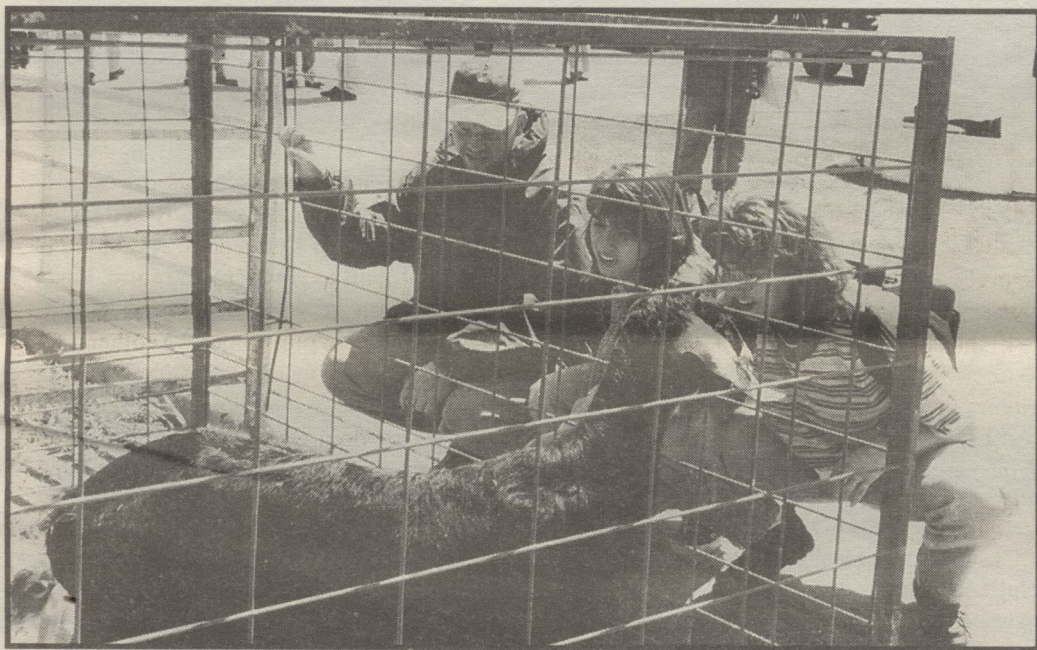
The workshop is designed to provide the fif-

teen participating students with knowledge and experiences that will prepare them for future careers in professional journalism. Built around one of the key goals of the CCCU—the integration of scholarship, faith, and service—the workshop will especially develop students' understanding of what being a Christian journalist demands.

Jongsma feels that the work she has done at KDCR Radio Station, the *Sioux City Journal*, and the *Northwest Iowa Review*, as well as the writing and communications classes that she has taken will be a good background for the workshop, but she is eager to test her knowledge in a new environment.

"I am looking forward to seeing journalism at work in a different geographical location and cultural setting. There is much more diversity of people and problems in a big city like D.C.," says Jongsma. "I'm also very interested in political journalism, and being in Washington, D.C., should give me a good idea of whether that is an area I want to continue to pursue."

Ag Day



Animal displays always draw college students as well as community children.

Bike club

Students at Dordt can choose from a variety of clubs that appeal to their hobby, career, or athletic interests. This spring a group of students started a biking club. Most Fridays that the weather permitted the group of serious and recreational riders headed out of town at about 4:30 for an hour ride into the country, sometimes led by faculty members like psychology professor Dr. Ken Bussema, an avid biker himself.

Curriculum on-line

The Center for Educational Services now has available a data bank of student-prepared unit plans on various social studies topics that could be used in Christian elementary and middle schools. The data bank has been placed on the Dordt gopher system and can be accessed by any computer with connections to the Internet.

The data bank is an initial attempt to make teaching resources readily available to Christian educators. Experienced teachers may want to revise or adopt these student written plans, but they provide some creative ideas. Resources from educators in the field are also welcomed.

The data bank can be accessed by connecting to Dordt College, following the directions and options described below: Telnet to cc.dordt.edu and login as gopher.

From the menu options choose:

Dordt College Campus Wide Information System

Academic Departments
K-6 Social Studies Unit Plans.

If you have access to the World Wide Web, go to www.dordt.edu to access Dordt's Home Page. Click on "Dordt's Gopher-based Information Server" and then click on the menu options described below:

Dordt College Campus Wide Information System
Academic Departments
K-6 Social Studies Unit Plans.

Ragbrai

Iowa's well-known annual bike ride across Iowa will begin in Sioux Center this year, with Dordt's campus serving as a campground for thousands of campers. For one day the town will triple its population, taxing all washroom and eating facilities. Tents, bikes, and trailers will populate most open spots and lazy summer streets will become major thoroughfares.



Chuck Van Drunen, Nate Schreur, and Mike Aldrink get ready for the big race.

Professor and students run the Boston 100th

Robert Hilbelink, accounting professor, joined nearly forty thousand other runners in the 100th Boston Marathon run April 15. Hilbelink earned a spot last May by running a marathon within the qualifying time limit. His son, Mike ('84), qualified in California, and the two met in Chicago and flew to Boston together. Hilbelink ended up somewhere in the center of the pack and, due to the number of people, says he simply had to run at the pace set by the people around him.

Aside from the throngs of people he had to try to avoid, Hilbelink enjoyed participating in the marathon. The people were friendly, and it was a good chance to talk with and meet other runners, he said.

Three Dordt students were part of the unregistered crowd, running the marathon as "bandits." Mike Aldrink, Chuck Van Drunen, and Nate Schreur drove to Boston to be part of the historic event.

Aldrink is an avid runner and has participated in five marathons, including the Boston in 1994, which he won for his age group. A few weeks before spring break this year, Aldrink mentioned that he would like to run the Boston Marathon on April 15. Van Drunen, a high school runner, liked the idea immediately, and the two started to train, running between six and nine miles a day for the first few weeks. Aldrink ran regularly to prepare for the race, while Schreur decided to join at a later date and only ran three miles the week before the race.

Van Drunen, however, hurt his knee over spring break, and barely managed more than three or four miles at a time for two weeks before the race. And just days before they were to leave for Boston, he developed tonsillitis. Taking heavy doses of antibiotics to combat the infection, he and his roommates left Dordt on Friday afternoon, April 12, staying overnight at Van Drunen's home in Chicago and continuing on Saturday morning despite his mother's protests.

By race day, the tonsillitis was gone but the knee was still weak. It held up until "heartbreak hill," a four-mile incline starting at mile 16, but Van Drunen kept going. "At mile 23," says Aldrink, "Chuck said, 'I'm sick of this,' and took off running. We ran a six-minute mile when most of the people around us were walking."

"I did three marathons that day," says Van Drunen. "One was the 26.2. Another was the three miles we walked back to the car. The third was getting out of the bathtub afterward."

Weeks after the event, with sore muscles finally loosened up, all three of the marathon runners are enthusiastic about their trip. According to Aldrink, at least a dozen students have already expressed interest in running the marathon next year.

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At least a dozen students have already expressed interest in running the marathon next year.

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Business professor, Bob Hilbelink, runs daily whether he's preparing for the Boston Marathon or not.

Dordt and Hulst bid each other farewell



Sally Jongsma

It's the students that Dr. J.B. Hulst will miss the most. And it's not hard to understand why. A quick look through his retirement book of tributes shows a deep appreciation, respect, and affection for a man many considered their mentor, pastor, counselor, and friend. It's also why, when asked to choose a favorite from among the four positions he has held at Dordt in the past twenty-eight years, he says immediately, "campus pastor."

"I got to know everyone in those years," he says fondly.

It's the one thing he regrets about having moved to the presidency.

"There's something about the presidency that tends to separate you from people," says Mrs. Louise Hulst, who has shared both the joys and the burdens of the office.

Colleagues and students from the last fourteen years probably know Hulst in a different way from those of earlier years. Yet this pastoral side remains a part of who he is. Even now, pressed by the responsibilities and busyness of his office, he makes time to visit someone dying of cancer or sit down with a concerned student or write a note to an alum who is facing a difficult situation.

On the eve of his retirement, he talks about the joy and honor it has been to serve the institution—as board member, theology professor, dean of students, vice president for student affairs, and president.

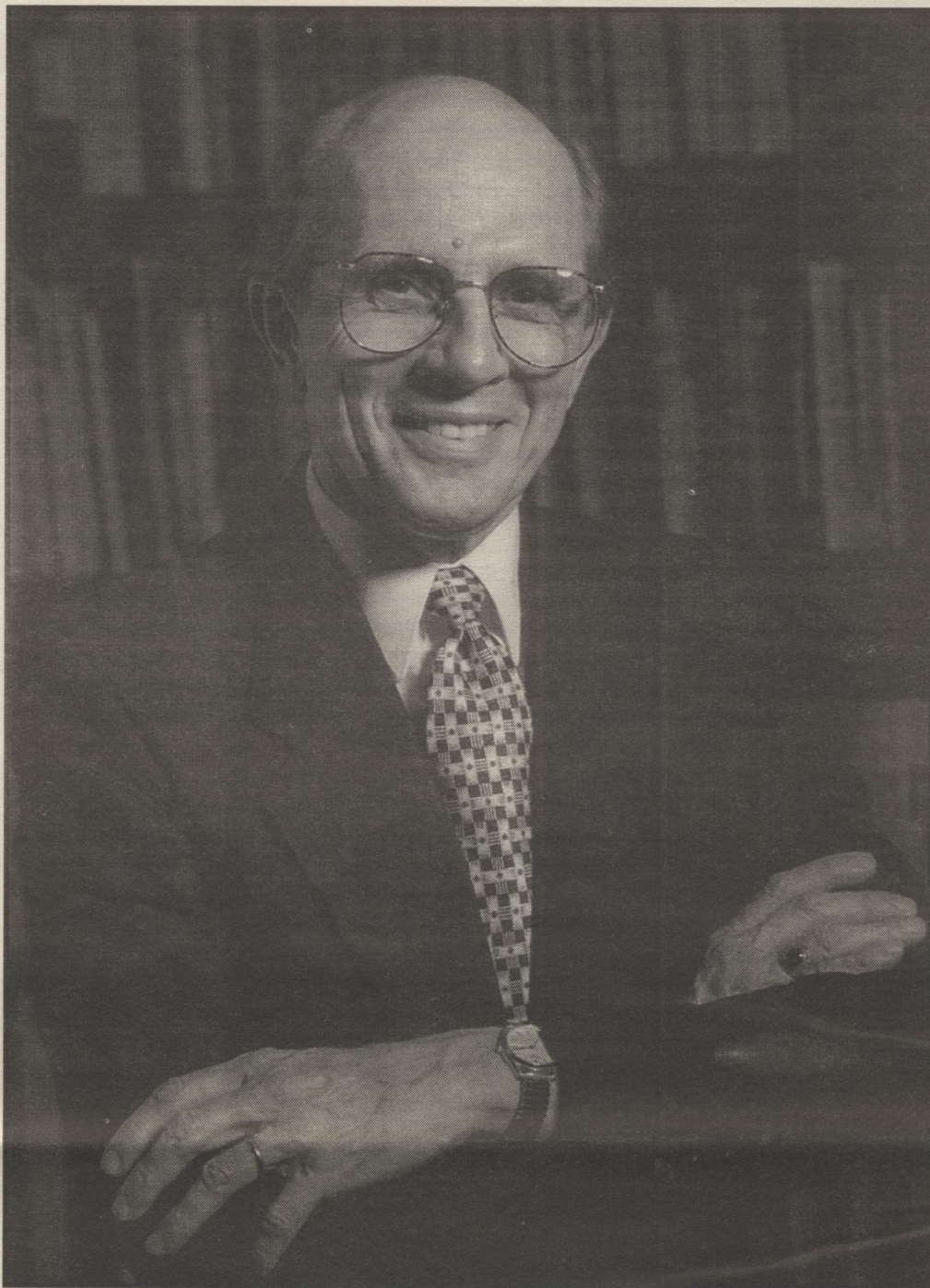
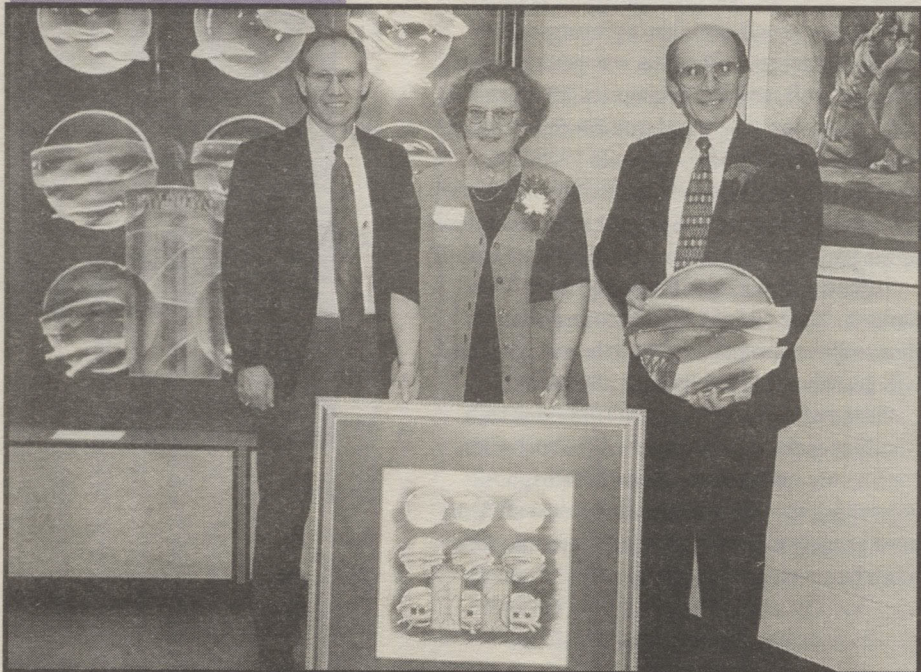
There have been good times and tough times. Both Hulsts fondly recall their early years at Dordt. Some of the best memories are of college retreats.

At a time when Dordt had an enrollment of under 700 students, more than 400 regularly attended the retreats. They were times of learning, but also of uproarious fun. It may be difficult for some to picture the distinguished and proper gentleman they know as president of Dordt College posing as a blond flapper in a mealtime style show at a camp on Lake Okoboji. But recalling those times brings a warm chuckle and a host of other memories to the Hulsts.

"Students and faculty joined in and made their own fun at those retreats," says Mrs. Hulst. Every mealtime was accompanied by skits and acts. Evenings were spent singing. And Hulst didn't consider it a successful retreat if he hadn't been thrown into the lake at least once during the weekend.

The annual Spring Banquets were also highlights of student and faculty interaction. "It was a big event. Everyone worked hard to plan a lively and enjoyable program. We often reflected on significant events, but in a light-hearted way."

At his retirement dinner, Dr. J.B. Hulst received *Zijn Kroninkrijk Kome* (Thy Kingdom Come), a work by art professor Jacob Van Wyk, commissioned by the board of trustees.



Dr. J.B. Hulst will leave Dordt's presidency on July 1.

"I suppose we idealize the memories a bit," Hulst admits. "As dean of students I was expected to contribute something. I worked hard to do something funny and stimulating, something with punch." He must have been successful because faculty and students turned out in large numbers year after year.

But the social times are not the only good memories. Hulst recalls teaching Theology 101 to over 170 students in the old gym, now New World Theatre. Students sat on folding chairs and used lap boards to take notes.

"It was like preaching four times a week," he says. He and his wife chuckle as they remember reading the scribbles and graffiti on those boards at the end of the year.

"We really should have kept some of them," says Mrs. Hulst. "We spent hours looking at the commentaries on college life that students left behind."

Those years were not much less busy than his presidential years. As an editor of *Renewal*, Hulst wrote for every issue on a variety of topics related to living a Christian life. His speaking schedule was relentless. The excitement and tension of helping students translate a reformational worldview into action in the sixties and seventies was energizing and tiring.

When Rev. B.J. Haan announced that he would retire and rumors began to spread that Hulst would be a likely candidate to replace him, Hulst received a number of visits from students telling him not to do it. He says now that even then he realized that in spite of his best intentions things would be different. Yet, he became a candidate and eventually president because he was committed to what Dordt

College was and could be.

"My husband was not a professional college president who would move from one college to another, he was a president who served Dordt College because of the kind of institution it was and is," says Mrs. Hulst.

Hulst's association with Dordt began early as a look at the photos of Dordt's groundbreaking show. As a young pastor in the Ireton Christian Reformed Church, he recognized the need for Dordt College.

"As products of Western Michigan we initially questioned the wisdom of starting a college when Calvin was there," says Hulst. But he soon saw the urgent need for local Christian school teachers to receive adequate training.

Many small rural schools were staffed by high school graduates with only six weeks of normal school training in the summer. As the college grew and its commitment to a Reformed, Kuyperian worldview that acknowledged God's sovereignty over all of creation took root, Hulst's commitment to the institution also grew. When he received the appointment to teach theology in 1968 while a pastor at Twelfth Avenue Christian Reformed Church in Jenison, Michigan, he knew immediately that he would accept the position. Over the years, as he became a respected leader in the Christian Reformed denomination people would hint that maybe he would want to move back to Grand Rapids. But he was never tempted. Dordt College became a life-long love and commitment.

But an equally strong pull for Hulst to come to Dordt was the opportunity to further minister to students.

"Throughout my ministry, young people and Christian education have been a key focus," he says. A commitment to offering young people the best possible foundation for embarking on a life of Christian service not only drew him originally but has continued to drive his presidency.

"I want students to receive a high quality, reformational education that allows them to actively serve in the jobs in which they find themselves," he says.

To do that he has stressed developing an integrated Christian perspective that permeates the entire curriculum. To accomplish that he has worked hard to institute a strong faculty development program, quadrupling funding so that faculty have the means to become the best professors they can in their field. He has also worked hard to broaden students' educational experience so that today Dordt is an institution that has connections around the world, bringing in students from other cultures and sending students out on a dozen off-campus study programs.

"Today within the Christian higher education community Dordt is known for its commitment to a Reformed worldview and for the preparation it gives its students," Hulst says. He cites the comment of one student on the American Studies Program who returned and told him, "They expect more from us Dordt kids."

But there have been difficult times, too: tough personnel problems that offered no easy way out; internal conflicts between parts of the college community that tore him up inside; busy schedules that put stress on himself and his family.

"Fortunately, as I think back I remember more good times than bad ones," he says. In fact, when he travels he sometimes meets former students who are uneasy because of something in their student past.

"What they don't know is that although I remember faces, I tend to forget the negatives—even when they sheepishly apologize for an incident they haven't forgotten."

Hulst is thankful for the work he's been able to do. Some of the developments that he is most proud of during his presidency are the introduction of the master's program, the

establishment of the Center for Educational Services, and the adoption of the Strategic Plan, *Renewing Our Vision*. The first \$1 million dollar gift to the college came during his tenure and after beginning his term with the prospect of enrollment falling to 800 students, he has been overjoyed to see enrollment top 1200 again this year. The percentage of faculty with Ph.Ds has increased and the college itself has matured as an institution. A campus plan was adopted and six buildings have been added to campus. Technology has kept pace.

But probably the thing Hulst is most thankful for is that the campus commitment to a Christian worldview has broadened.

"One of the first issues I faced as dean of students was dealing with a supporter who wondered whether we should tape up the pop machines in the residence halls on Sunday. Without compromising I think we have tried to develop a good cultural sensitivity that is not legalism and not a secular permissivism."

He cites as an example his regular discussions with theatre people to discuss not just what we shouldn't do but what we should do in theatre.

"We are more self-consciously Reformed today," he believes. Parents who are alumni have told him that they believe their children are receiving a more concrete Christian perspective than they did. Hulst believes this happens because faculty continue to develop their Christian perspective in particular disciplines.

"Yet we can never think Dordt has arrived," he says. His presidency was able to build on the solid foundation laid by former president B.J. Haan. Dr. Carl Zylstra's presidency will build on his.

"It's both an encouragement and a comfort to know that to be Reformed is to be reforming," he says. "We don't have to feel dissatisfied if everything isn't exactly as we think it might be. We've made progress in areas and will develop more in the years ahead."

The Hulsts plan to move to their home on Lake Okoboji following their retirement on July 1. They are looking forward to spending more time together, living at a more relaxed pace, and spending more time with their children and grandchildren. Beginning in

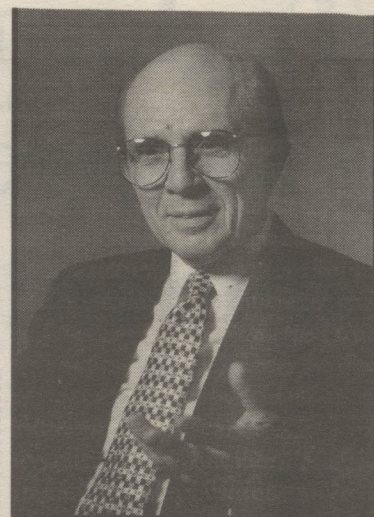
September Hulst will assume the one-third time position of executive secretary for the International Association for the Promotion of Higher Education. He is honored and challenged by the appointment, but feels ready to take it on.

"As president of Dordt I made connections with so many people and institutions that I know what I will be getting into."

In his free time, in addition to spending time on the lake, Hulst looks forward to preaching, writing, and speaking.

Dordt will remain close to his heart.

"I've given my life to this institution, so a part of it remains with me. But no one is indispensable. I will continue to be one of the college's strongest supporters."



A president's life is fast paced

Most people would blanch at the schedule Dr. J.B. Hulst kept as president of Dordt College. Even he agrees that it was too much at times.

"Sometimes life seemed like one big meeting," Hulst says with a grin.

"But the pace was also part of his personality," says his wife, Louise.

Dordt's retiring president was a hard-working, committed servant of the college. In a typical week he might leave for the airport on Friday afternoon, fly to a community somewhere in the United States or Canada, preach twice on Sunday—in two different churches, make fund-raising calls on Monday and lead an advisory council meeting that evening.

Returning to campus midweek, he would meet with his vice presidents, the Long Range Planning Committee, or the board executive committee. In between were scheduled appointments with individual faculty, students with a concern or who wanted to interview him for something, more trips out of town to attend meetings of church or higher education groups, receptions to host, guest lectures, ball games, or concerts to attend.

"The biggest challenge is to provide campus leadership and at the same time maintain good relations with the various publics," Hulst says. "Given Dordt's geographically broad constituency that means a considerable amount of travel."

Given the pace of the last fourteen years, it is probably a good thing that Hulst will ease into retirement by scaling down to a one-third time position with the International Association for the Promotion of Higher Education next fall. He's not the sort of person to just sit for long.

Dordt receives Lilly grant to study service learning

Dordt College is one of five institutions awarded a grant by the Lilly Endowment to research the connection between religion, mission, curriculum, and service. The grant will underwrite a review of the literature on service learning, two planning meetings for representatives of the five colleges, development of action plans for each college, development of a research instrument, and preparation of a research grant proposal to be presented to Lilly next year. Two representatives of each of the five colleges will make up a working committee for the project.

Service learning has become something of a buzz word in educational circles today. Colleges and universities across America, particularly church-affiliated institutions, are reexamining and reevaluating active service to society as a pedagogical method and as an educational goal of the undergraduate curriculum.

Last summer Dordt College sent a team of people to the National Institute on Learning and Service sponsored by the Council of Independent Colleges.

"It makes a lot of sense," says Dr. Willis Alberda, one of Dordt's representative on the Lilly committee. "It can be seen as implementation of our idea of serviceable

insight right now. Students serve and learn at the same time rather than just being prepared to serve."

Alberda has become convinced of the value of service learning by working with computer science students who are placed in practicums during their senior year.

"I see a significant difference between those who participated in a practicum and those who didn't," he says. Employers also look at those students differently.

But more importantly students found out, as they were assisting someone in the community, why what they were learning was important. "What we can learn more concretely from the service learning discussion is how to reflect on and evaluate the experience as a model for life-long learning and serving," says Alberda.

It became apparent to members of the five schools awarded the Lilly grant that religiously-affiliated colleges, with well-defined missions and a tradition of examining social justice issues, might be in a good position to address these questions and thus take a leadership role in the national discussion on service-learning.

That is what they hope to do in the next year. The group will try to understand the unique character and basic principles of ser-

vice learning at various church-related institutions. A second part of the project will examine how their mission statements affect the way the five schools—which differ by mission, religious affiliation, student population, regional location, and socioeconomic setting—implement service learning and implement a pilot project for each campus.

At Dordt, Alberda and Bos have discussed possible pilot projects that might involve the Agriculture Stewardship Center and explore how we can be of service to the non-human creation. Another possibility, says Alberda, might tie already established service projects like PLIA and AMOR into the curriculum.

"We want students to learn that service is an integral part of the Christian Life and give them tools to be life-long learners and servers," says Alberda. Such an emphasis will show how they can make a difference in the world by showing them why they need to learn what they do. It should also give a better understanding of why and where they may not be able to make a difference.

Alberda believes that service learning has the potential to be a strong motivator for students and hopes that the work he and the committee do will bear that out.

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June 1996

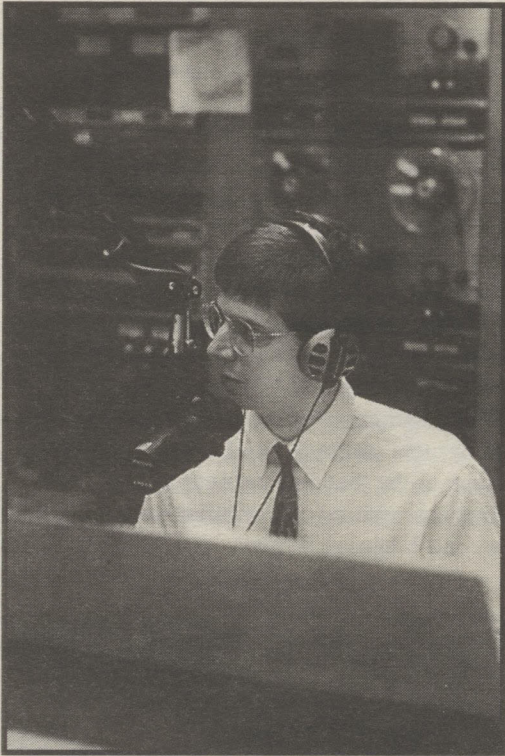
Moving away from politics as a spectator sport

Tim Vos

A veteran news man once explained to me that there were two types of news stories: the informative news that people need to know and the type of stories people talk about around the water cooler at work. His explanation seems a little old fashioned now. For one thing, people don't seem to gather around a water cooler any more—chances are they pack their own bottle of Evian water. But the absence of the water cooler has not meant an absence of 'water cooler' news stories. In fact, what makes my friend's distinction seem so quaint is that all news articles are becoming 'water cooler' stories.

The point that all news stories are becoming 'water cooler' stories can be taken in at least a couple of different ways. In one sense, it means that the news spends less time dealing with the critical issues of the body politic and more time on entertaining fluff. In other words, we see fewer stories about highway safety and more about balloon races around the world. But we've had literally hundreds of years of news dedicated to entertaining fluff, and even though its proportion may be increasing, fluff alone is not the problem. An even more frightening problem is that news, particularly television news, is helping turn politics into a spectator sport. In another sense, the point that all news stories are becoming 'water cooler' stories, means that news is the fodder for idle conversation, not political engagement. News stories about welfare reforms lead to plenty of conversation. In fact, that conversation may be very serious—people will debate pro's and con's on radio and television talk shows and in the editorial pages. But does that conversation lead to political action? How many people will write their representatives, attend a hearing, or otherwise get engaged in the machinery of the law making process?

Roderick Hart makes the case that television, America's leading source for political news, is a major player in making politics a spectator sport. Let me try to summarize his argument. By its nature, television is an intimate medium—it shows people up close. The close-up coverage of politicians breeds a feeling of familiarity. Hart says politicians have picked up on this and now speak the "language of intimacy." For example, they speak about their personal lives in an attempt to make a personal connection to voters. How many of us do not know that Socks is the Clinton's cat? How many of us have not heard the story about how President and Mrs. Bush cried as puppies were born in the White House? With this exposure, we think we have an understanding of a politician's character. In fact, Hart argues that television is behind the near obsession with political character—it's directly implicated in a lack of attention to a candidate's voting record or stand on issues. Given the intimacy of television, voters feel they know politicians very well—even if they know little from the public record. Hart argues that this cult of character and intimacy makes voters feel close to politicians when they actually are not. It also makes voters feel informed when they are not. And when we call in to a talk show we may feel politically busy, but in reality we are inactive in the actual political process. Finally, Hart maintains that our diet of political news contains far too much insider information. For example, we may follow how a



Tim Vos ('83) is news director of Dordt's radio station, KDCR

candidate is doing in the polls. But, this is not the kind of information which empowers meaningful political action. Hart concludes that this eventually leads to cynicism. Thus, "(i)t is television . . . that makes the private viewing of political activities feel like genuine political participation. It is television that obscures the difference between individual action and public action."² Consequently, "television provides viewers with so much vicarious political experience that they often feel too tired to vote."³

If trends hold, only half of the eligible elec-

torate will vote in the general election this November. Will you feel too tired to vote? It does little good for me to simply say, "get out and vote"—especially if that vote is driven by nothing more than a media-created sense of the character of the candidate.

The erosion of political participation requires that we reclaim citizenship as a calling for which we are held accountable. Roderick Hart's solution is what he calls a "New Puritanism." He is on the right track. First, we need to reclaim a sense that political action is communal. Television is notorious for circumventing traditional institutions of mediation, like families, churches, and political parties. Political action needs to be rooted in communal understandings—understandings which arise from families, churches, and political parties. And second, we need to reclaim a sense that the creator-God is in charge of history. Thus, we can offer our political action as a response to God's call to develop and unfold the creation. That's a strong antidote for the television-created sense of cynicism we'd otherwise be left with. Don't settle for vicarious participation in a televised public square. Don't think that talk around the water cooler, the coffee pot, or the dinner table exhausts your civic responsibilities. Let's be stewards of the public square and engage in meaningful political action.

1. Roderick P. Hart, *Seducing America: How Television Charms the Modern Voter* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1994), 32. Joshua Meyrowitz also documents the rise of familiarity between voters and political leaders in *No Sense of Place: The Impact of Electronic Media on Social Behavior* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985).
2. Hart, 103.
3. Hart, 106.

Campaign Update Rec center construction begins

Lyle Gritters

We have reached a strategic point in the Dordt 2000 Campaign. Total funds raised reached the \$10,470,000 mark on May 1, which means we are about 2/3 of the way toward the campaign goal of \$16,000,000. Having already surpassed the total raised in the previous campaign (\$9.2 million for the New Horizons Campaign), the Development Office Staff is gearing up for what will be the biggest challenge of the entire campaign—raising the \$5 million needed to cover the last 1/3 of the funds needed to reach the goal.

This is also a strategic point in the campaign because the first two building projects, the faculty office addition and the new maintenance building have now been completed, and work has begun on the centerpiece of the campaign, the new recreation complex. The concrete pilings have been poured and the grade beams (foundations) are being laid. Before long, the



outline of the new facility will begin to take shape.

It is a facility which will not only transform the landscape of the college campus, it will also transform campus life. With close to 86,000 square feet of space under one roof, the new recreation complex is destined to become a center for campus activities providing spacious high quality health, physical education, and recreation resources for Dordt students.

When completed in the fall of 1997, the new complex will

- meet the fitness and health concerns of today's students.
- meet the recreational needs of the entire student body, most of whom participate in a variety of intramural sports and wellness activities.
- alleviate the serious overcrowding of the existing gym.
- further Dordt's mission to educate the whole student.
- be a very significant asset in the recruitment and retention of students.

Dordt is one of the few college campuses in the upper midwest that does not have an indoor recreation facility. When completed, the attractive new complex will help give Dordt a truly complete campus, serving the intellectual, spiritual, social, and recreational needs of the students.

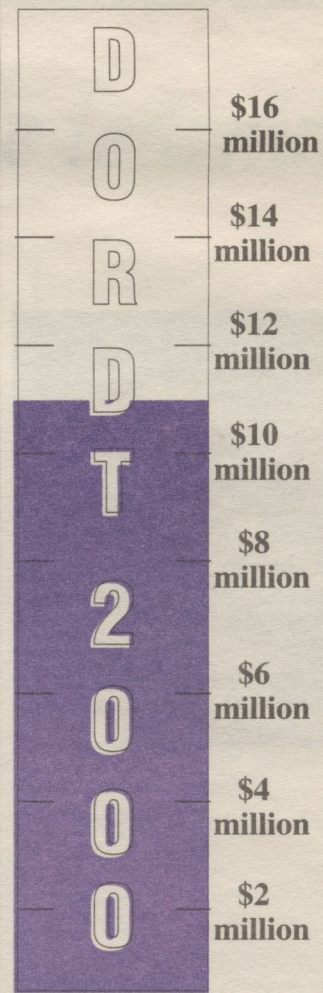
Please join us in praying for the successful completion of fund raising efforts and the new recreation complex over the next year or two.

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Television

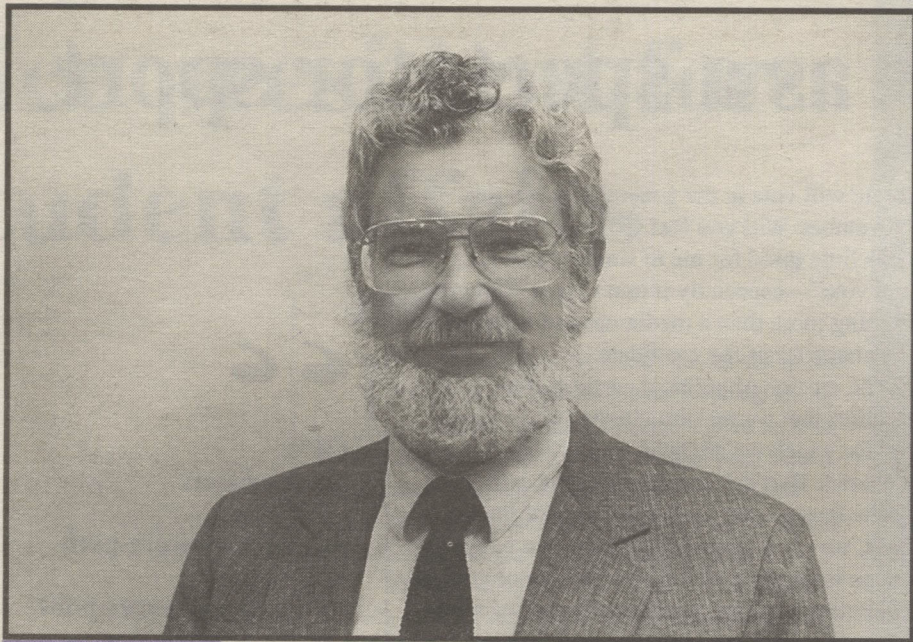
provides viewers with so much vicarious political experience that they often feel too tired to vote.

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Campaign Goal: \$16 million
Raised to date: \$10.5 million
Dordt 2000 is a five-year \$16 million campaign to provide additional campus facilities, meet the annual fund goals, and increase the endowment.

Faculty news



Dr. John Van Dyk

The professional involvements of Dordt faculty members outside of the classroom reveal Dordt's commitment to provide educational leadership in the Christian community as well as among its own students. By sharing these activities, we hope to provide fellow Christians with further resources, ideas, and encouragement as they work to be of service in Christ's kingdom.

Dr. John Van Dyk, director of the Center for Educational Services, spent ten days team-teaching in seventh grade classrooms in Abbotsford, British Columbia. In part to comply with a state requirement that all education professors spend at least forty hours in the classroom every five years, Van Dyk also wanted to test the "shared praxis" approach to teaching.

Van Dyk worked closely with teachers Trent De Jong, Dave Loewen and Tim Van Brummelen, all of whom he describes as young, energetic, creative, committed, and exceptionally effective classroom teachers. They planned and taught a unit on Hellenism. Despite Van Dyk's initial reaction of "pretty heady stuff," he says the experiment turned out to be a huge success. The students were totally involved in their learning, the teachers were enthusiastic, and other teachers expressed interest in the method. All three teachers agreed that the experience was more valuable than any formal course they could have taken.

Dr. James C. Schaap was guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Holland/Hope Archives on April 17. He was also a featured speaker and writer at Calvin's "Conference 96: Festival of Faith and Writing." Schaap read from his work and was part of a panel discussion with former Dordt, now Redeemer professor, Hugh Cook at the Calvin Festival.

While on sabbatical this year, Schaap has traveled to a number of different communities, visiting several schools in Michigan, Iowa, and Minnesota. He also read stories at Edgerton Christian's Parents Club Meeting, and was the commencement speaker at Unity Christian High School in Orange City, Iowa.

Schaap was also a first prize winner in fiction in PERMAFROST, a publication of the University of Alaska.

Dr. Ken Bussema, **Dr. Lorna Van Gilst**, and several students are spending three weeks teaching at Kharkov Pedagogical University in Kharkov, Ukraine. Van Gilst is teaching a course in American Literature, as well as presenting writing, English, and American culture lectures. Bussema will present lectures in psychology and culture. Both professors and students will lead small group classes, teaching individually or as a group.

Mary Lou Wielenga, adjunct instructor in piano and organ, recently served as adjudicator for the South Dakota Music Teachers Association piano festival held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. She also presented a workshop and performed for Worthington, Minnesota, area piano teachers and students.

Dr. Dallas Apol attended the annual meet-

ing of the North American Association of Christian Foreign Language and Literature Faculty. The meeting was held April 11 - 13 at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, CA. Apol serves as secretary of the organization.

Dr. John Van Rys recently won an Award of Merit (second place) from the Associated Church Press for his poem, "Den Creature," published in the February 27, 1995, issue of *The Banner*.

On March 28, **Dr. Lorna Van Gilst** co-presented with Jose Villalobos, a research partner from the University of Iowa, at the annual Conference of College Composition and Communication held in Madison, Wisconsin. The presentation was titled "The Five-Paragraph Essay—Legacy or Liability in English Writing Classrooms Outside the U.S." Van Gilst and Villalobos compared their experiences of teaching writing in Venezuela and in Ukraine, showing how some of the theories and strategies of first-language writing can be effectively used with second-language writers.



Dr. Lorna Van Gilst

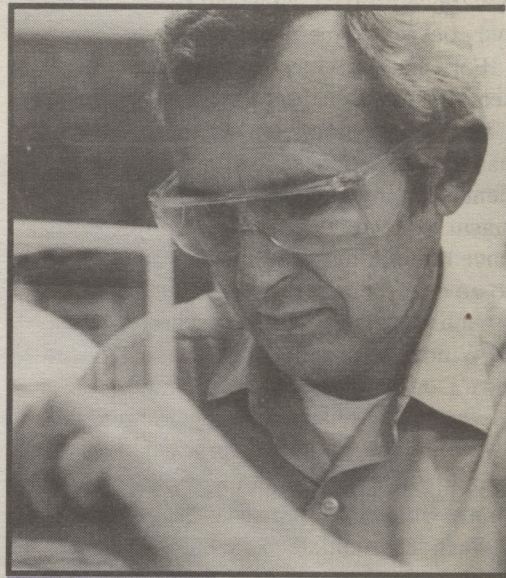
Dr. J.B. Hulst gave Dordt's commencement address for the final commencement of his presidency this spring. He was also the commencement speaker at Calvin Theological Seminary.

Hulst preached the sermon at the prayer service which opened the Reformed Ecumenical Council Assembly meetings in Grand Rapids, Michigan, held June 3-7. In July he is an invited speaker at two conferences in Australia: a scholarly conference and the International Christian Education conference scheduled for July 22-25 in Sydney.

Dr. John Van Dyk and **Dr. Pam Adams** spoke at a conference titled Nurturing Reflective Christians to Serve Public and

Private Education held from May 22 to May 25 at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, CA. Van Dyk presented a keynote called "Teaching Education Students to Teach Christianly: The Meaning, the Context, and the Implementation." Adams presented a session called "Biblical Hermeneutics and the Teaching of Reading."

The conference was sponsored by the Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities and was the second biennial symposium.

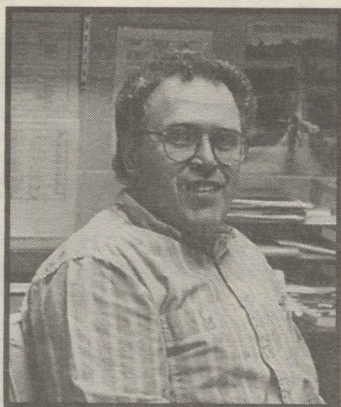


Dr. Edwin Geels

Dr. Edwin Geels, professor of chemistry, is co-author of the article, "EPR and MS Identification of Radical Adducts Produced Spontaneously from Reactions of Phosgene, Chlorine Gas, and Bromine with C-Phenyl N-tert-Butyl Nitron (PBN)." The article, which will be published in the *Journal of the Chemical Society*, investigates the metabolism of carbon tetrachloride, a chemical produced from the chlorine in municipal water supplies, reacting with the methane in sewage systems and released into many rivers. This water later becomes part of municipal drinking waters.

From March 13-16 professors **Delmar Vander Zee**, **David Schelhaas**, and **Chris Goedhart** attended the second meeting of the Global Stewardship Initiative at Azusa Pacific University. The Dordt professors joined faculty from other member colleges of the Coalition for Christian Colleges and Universities who are part of an environmental stewardship project funded through the CCCU.

Dr. Delmar Vander Zee participated in the tenth anniversary faculty conference of the Latin American Studies Project in Costa Rica from March 20-26.



Dr. Ken Bussema

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Hall winds down 26-year career in admissions

Sally Jongsma

"If I had to live my life over, I'd spend the same twenty-six years at Dordt College," says Howard Hall, Dordt's former director of admissions. "I've never been sorry I came and really can hardly believe it's time to leave already."

For years Hall has been Mr. Dordt to high school students across the United States and Canada. Traveling from school to school he has talked to thousands of prospective students. His infectious warmth and his enthusiasm for the college are contagious and have brought many a student who had plans to go elsewhere before talking to him.

At a pizza party for high school students in Winnipeg recently, Hall was introduced by a Dordt alum who told them that fifteen years ago Hall had encouraged him to attend Dordt instead of the University of Alberta, adding, "It was the best decision I've made in my whole life."

Such testimonials make all of his years of work worth while, says Hall. He's thankful to God for giving him the opportunity to do something he has enjoyed so much.

"We've got so much going here and our kids are the greatest in the world," he says enthusiastically.

That confidence in the institution has made his job easy. His appreciation for the institution began already before he came on staff in 1970. As principal of Unity Christian High School in Orange City, Iowa, Hall gained respect for Dordt through the quality of student teachers that came to his school. When former president B.J. Haan asked him whether he would be interested in building an admissions program, he at first hesitated because he had no experience in such a venture. But Haan, playing on Hall's business experience, asked "Do you think you'd be able to sell Dordt College?"

"Without a doubt," Hall responded. A successful partnership began that lasted for twelve years during Haan's presidency and continued for another fourteen with Dr. J.B. Hulst.

But Hall's work has changed dramatically over those twenty-six years. He recalls the early years with a smile and a shudder.

The first year he traveled for admissions, processed all financial aid packages, served as registrar, and supervised the college switchboard—all with the help of one secretary.

"I enjoyed the work, but it was too much," he says. The work in financial aid alone was exploding. The Iowa Tuition

Grant, introduced one year earlier, brought not only new funding, but also a barrage of paper work. Equal Opportunity Grants, National Defense Student Loans, and Guaranteed Student Loans were all introduced during those years. The program ballooned. Hall gave up the registrar job and hired another recruiter to help travel around the country to spread the story of Dordt College.

He can tell a host of humorous and inspiring stories about his travels in those years: getting lost trying to find schools, spending nights in unusual sleeping accommodations, establishing friendships that have lasted a lifetime. He'll also tell you how he and his recruiters would memorize the names of the students who would be coming in the fall.

"I'd take the lists and the pictures home with me and keep working through the summer to make sure I knew all of them by the time they came on campus in the fall," he says. In fact, he and Mike Epema, the current financial aid director and a former admissions counselor, would quiz each other to make sure they were ready for registration day.

But he can also tell you, in retrospect, that he was on the road too much; that his wife, Vicki, spent more than her share of time bringing up their five sons. It's the only thing he would change.

"She was a great support for me and always encouraged me in my work," says Hall. When their children were older, Vicki accompanied him on some trips and became an enthusiastic recruiter, too.

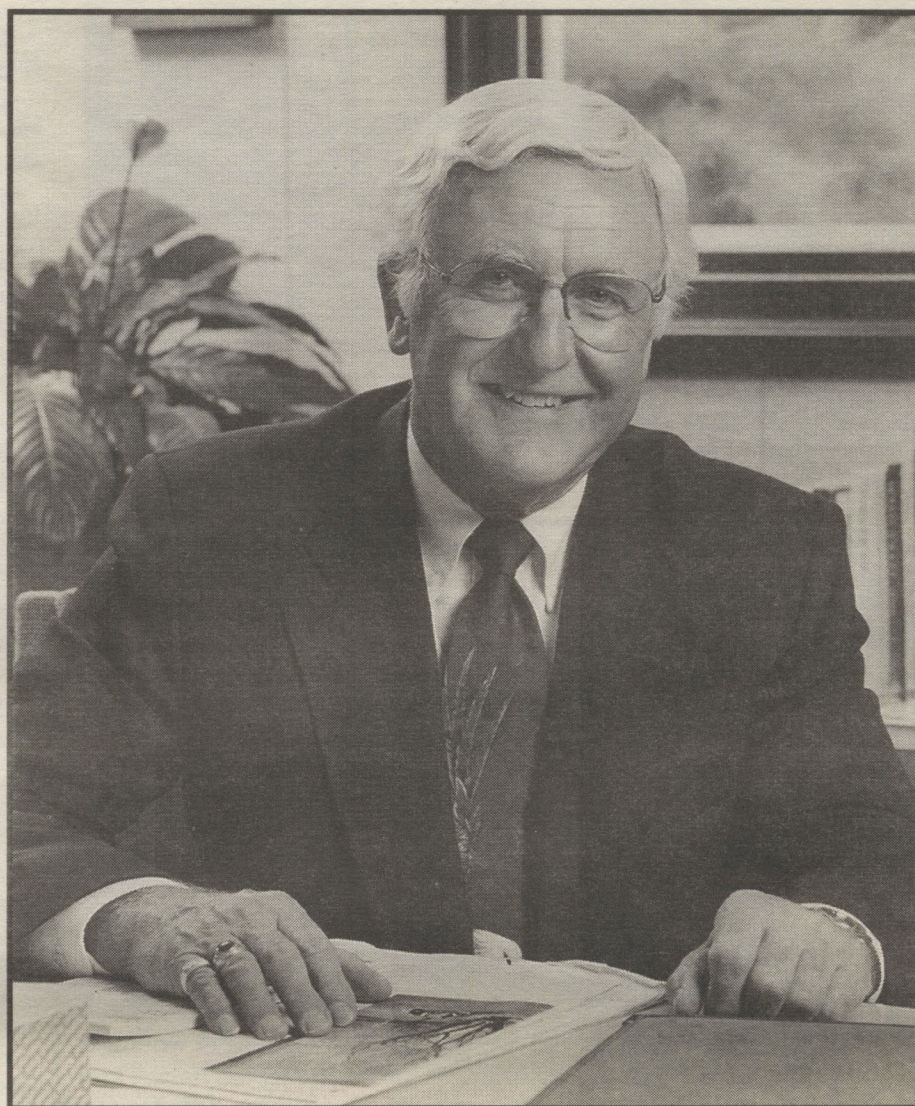
As the years have passed, the detail and amount of work in admissions and financial aid has increased dramatically. But Hall is not one to look back nostalgically to the good old days.

"The changes have been good," he says. Admissions personnel spend much more time traveling, calling, and recording information in the computer than previously, and incoming students benefit.

"Students today are much better informed about what's ahead. That makes the transition from high school to college easier."

"We used to think three times before we picked up the phone to make a long distance call. Today it is a life line to our future students, allowing them and us to make the decisions we have to." It also gives them a personal contact with the college.

That personal interest and caring is one of Dordt's great strengths, Hall believes, not only in the admissions staff, but throughout the whole college.



Howard Hall has worked with thousands of students—and still knows many of them.

Students have earned a reputation for being friendly and caring to those who visit campus. And faculty have always been willing to reach out to current and prospective students, Hall says.

"I go to admissions conferences and regularly hear colleagues complain about faculty not being willing to do a thing to help. That's just not true at Dordt. The support I've had has been tremendous."

But the thing that Hall finds most compelling about Dordt College is its unflagging commitment to bring a Christian perspective in every course in the curriculum.

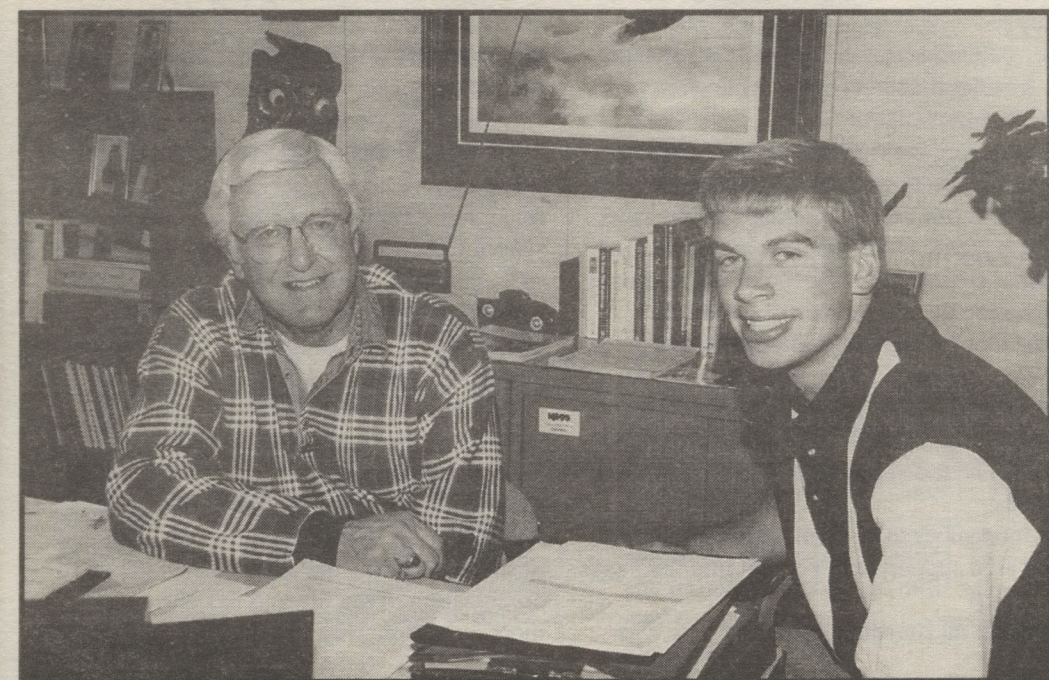
"We can't be beat on that score," he says proudly. "I've never been hesitant to get kids here, because I believe so firmly that they will get what they come for."

Hall retires this summer, but he'll still be around. Next year he will work quarter time, helping the new person on staff learn the job. After that, he and his wife, Vicki, plan to stay busy volunteering with the college, Christian Reformed World Missions, or the Christian Reformed World Relief Committee. And they hope to travel. Travel, of course, is nothing new for the Halls, but now instead of rushing back to the office or off to the next school, they will have the luxury of staying an extra day when they find something interesting they want to do.

His connections for Dordt will not end either. Despite earlier plans to move to Minneapolis after his retirement, Hall says, "I want to see this rec center completed, and if there's a need I'd love to lead occasional financial aid workshops or parent dinners. And our grandchildren want their Iowa grandparents to be here when they come to Dordt College," he adds with a chuckle.

"Dordt has been good to me. God has been good to me. I'm thankful every day for his leading. Coming here was one of the best decisions I ever made."

"Students today are much better informed about what's ahead. That makes the transition from high school to college easier.
"



Parting reflections of an alumni director

Jim De Young

July 1 marks the end of my tenure as director of alumni relations at Dordt College. At that time I will become director of public relations. As a matter of record, since coming to Dordt in August 1986, my title has been "director of alumni and public relations," but I've discovered that my public Dordt persona is director of alumni relations.

One of the things I will have to get used to, I guess, is no longer having a public persona, since few people are aware of the publications, advertising, media relations, and miscellaneous visibility-building programs done by a public relations director.

I look forward to the opportunity to focus on a narrower set of responsibilities, and I feel that my training and talents are more appropriately exercised in the area of public relations. But leaving behind the alumni relations role brings some regrets.

I'll miss the people. When I was planning an event for homecoming or writing an article for the *Voice*, I knew that individual alumni would attend the event or read the article. Some of those alumni

I knew rather well, some more as acquaintances. Many whom I didn't know I would soon meet.

I have no idea how many alumni I've met in the ten years I've served as director of alumni relations. Attendance at ten summer reunions has totaled over 1000. Eleven homecomings have attracted maybe 5000 alumni, though many return from year to year. I've been at alumni or constituency events in dozens of communities across the U.S. and Canada. I've been privileged to work with over forty alumni board members. During my time at Dordt over a quarter of the current alumni have passed through as students, and I've been able to get to know many of them.

Five years from now, when someone on campus mentions an alumnus, I won't be the one to say, "Oh, yeah, you mean the engineer from Seattle. Wife's name is Miranda, I think. She's an accountant. Three kids. They were at the reunion two years ago. Neat people." I'll miss that.

I'll also regret not being a part of this aspect of the life of Dordt College because I believe it is very significant. The student state is temporary, but alumnus is forever. Dordt's alumni is growing and becoming more and more important to the college. Dordt's own recognition of that importance is demonstrated by the fact that the newly-created director of alumni and church relations position is designed to allow greater attention to be given to building a vital alumni program.

Already the children of alumni are making

up about a third of the Dordt student body. Each year the number of alumni supporting the college through monetary gifts increases. The number of alumni serving in leadership positions on the board of trustees, advisory councils, and other college committees is impressive. At present, for instance, three of the four officers of the board of trustees are alumni.

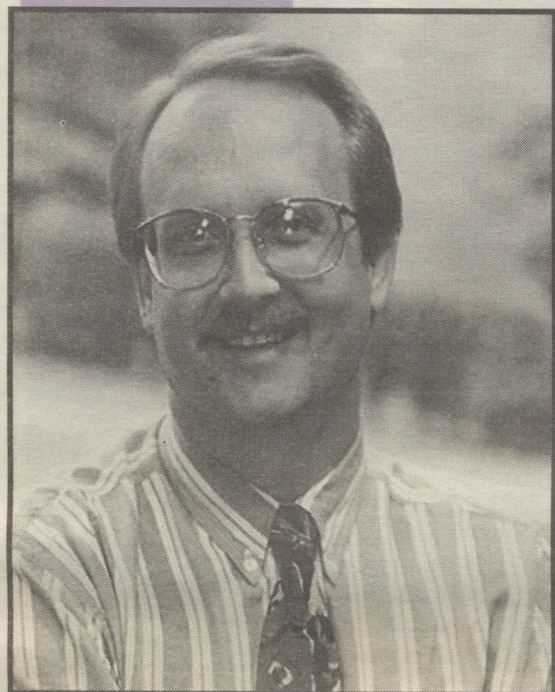
Of course, Dordt will continue to enroll students who aren't children of alumni. Dordt needs and will seek the financial support of non-alumni. Dordt will seek able leadership from non-alumni. But Dordt will rely more and more on you, its alumni, in the years to come. The alumni of Dordt College are becoming and will remain the linchpin of Dordt's support, the foundation of its strength in the future.

Over the last ten years it's been exciting to watch, encourage, and enable the growth in the relationship between Dordt College and its alumni. I'll miss being a part of that.

But, really, I'll still be a part of it. After all, I'm an alumnus of Dordt myself. I look forward to the day—approaching frighteningly fast—that my children attend Dordt, and my wife and I will do what we can to see that it happens. We appreciate the opportunity to financially support Dordt, and we look forward to being able to do so more generously, confident that Dordt will continue to be deserving of our support. I find it especially gratifying to see increasing numbers of my fellow alumni joining me as active supporters of Dordt College.

And you'll still run into me at reunions and homecoming, but I'll be wearing a name tag like the rest of you, relaxing and enjoying the camaraderie, while alumni director Judy Hagey scrambles to insure that I and my fellow alumni are happy. I think I'll enjoy that.

Jim De Young has been alumni and public relations director since 1988.



Running gets into the blood of some alumni



We all know people who groan at the thought of running two miles and simply blanch at the idea of running ten, never mind twenty-six. But there are others who can't imagine a week without several three to ten mile runs. Dordt alumni runners are just as avidly tied to their sport as the average person you've seen in a runner's magazine.

The reasons they run vary. How they began varies. But they share a passion that makes them forget the pain and gives them a sense of camaraderie with other runners.

"My body keeps me running," says Len Fakkema ('81), a soccer coach and teacher at Lynden Christian High School, in Washington. "It cries out to me when I haven't run for a few days. My legs ache if I don't run." He started running already in grade school and has never stopped.

Running is not new to Heidi Siebring ('92) either. She ran track and cross country in high school and enjoyed the competition and anxiety that races cause. But several months after she began, she decided she needed something in her life besides school. She began playing soccer, running to get in shape.

"I entered a local race and received a third place medal. I was rather astonished, and ever since then I've been running at least three times a week," she says.

"Running is enjoyable for me both as a stress relief and as a way of enjoying the outdoors. It's therapeutic."

Sylvan Gerritsma ('73) has run for most of the last thirty-six years. He wants to keep the

body God has given him in good condition. "But some friends tell me that all of my lofty reasons for running just try to conceal the fact that I'm addicted to it!" he says.

Gerritsma started running in high school. "Like most boys I wanted to be a basketball star. I wasn't good enough. Instead of just cutting me from the team, my coach, Dr. Mike Vanden Bosch, graciously offered me a face-saving alternative—join the track team."

Many runners run by themselves. Siebring says she trains mostly on her own, but does enjoy running with someone else. Both Fakkema and Gerritsma occasionally run with a son, and Fakkema says that sometimes a family member will bike with him. But all enjoy the time to think and relax. The only time it's hard to get themselves out is when the weather is biting cold and the wind and snow are blowing.

But having the right gear helps. Siebring says living in Terrace, British Columbia, she has had to buy some Gore-tex windbreakers to keep warm. Otherwise all say they do not spend a great deal on special clothing. But all emphasize the importance of good shoes.

"At first I bought bottom-of-the-line shoes, but over the years I have become more particular," says Siebring. Gerritsma buys obsolete models of good shoes to keep the cost down, but says he has splurged on a good heart rate monitor.

"Good shoes that absorb shock and have good arch support help prevent injuries," says Fakkema.

Almost all runners have experience with

injuries of varying degrees of seriousness. At the moment, Siebring says, she is nursing a stress fracture that has forced her to bike or run in the pool. Several years ago Gerritsma was struck by a car while running. He still runs with some of the dozens of pins doctors had to use to put his leg back together.

The aches and pains that come after a hard run or a race may be a bit uncomfortable, but they also are gratifying because it confirms that they've done their best, the runners say.

Although all admit to enjoying the competitive aspect of running, the runners who wrote in do not run simply to win races. Family and other busyness means they have to use their time carefully. Most run in 5 or 10K races, with an occasional marathon. Their interest is first of all in running, doing the best they can, and staying in shape.

"After all these years I am more awestruck than ever at the marvelous way the Lord made even rather ordinary human bodies like mine. For instance, when I was in high school I knew no one, and hardly even heard of anyone who could run ten miles," says Gerritsma. "If someone had told me that at forty-nine I would frequently run more than that on a Saturday morning, I would have guffawed scornfully and incredulously."

"I love to run and hopefully will be able to run for many more years," says Fakkema. "I run with my soccer team every day and this makes them realize the importance of staying in shape. Running has added discipline and organization to my life and has given me more quiet time with my Lord."

My body keeps me running. It cries out to me when I haven't run for a few days. My legs ache if I don't run.

The Holtrop sisters create a family tradition in social work

Sally Jongsma

Social work has become a family tradition for the three youngest Holtrop sisters. The youngest, Candace, graduated with a B.S.W. this spring, following in the footsteps of Crystal ('87) and Connie ('91).

Although each of the sisters had their own reasons for choosing social work as a career, their family background created an environment that encouraged such choices.

"Our parents raised us to be caring and sensitive to people in need," says Connie.

"They taught us to think about the underdog and to have compassion for others," adds Crystal. And Candy can remember conversations about racism and poverty at an early age.

The death of their father when they were young also affected them deeply.

"It was a traumatic time, but crises shape you," says Crystal, who was seventeen at the time. Today she believes that it gave her the desire to be supportive of others who are grieving and hurting.

Although the Holtrops had a relatively sheltered life growing up in Northwest Iowa, the family's sensitivity to others' needs led them to participate in mission and service projects like PLIA and SWIM. Candy says going on PLIA confirmed her desire to major in social work. Working for a summer in the inner city of Philadelphia was a formative experience for Crystal.

"I was not used to associating with non-Christians and felt ill-equipped to do so at first," she says. She still wrestles with the pros and cons of a relatively isolated childhood. At the same time she appreciates the strong foundation that her family and Christian education gave her.

"I guess you can compare it to a seedling grown indoors," she says. It needs to develop a good root system to be able to survive the hot sun, but if left too long inside it is stunted.

Despite her mission and service experiences, Candy says her practicum experience at Erie Neighborhood House in Chicago last semester showed her a different world from her own.

"I was not so surprised at what I found, but I had no experience with the kinds of families and neighborhoods I worked with," she says. Candy was placed in the after school program, working with children, interacting with families, and helping clients develop parenting skills.

"As I became involved with abused and neglected kids, I wondered at times if I could handle it. Talking with Connie helped me realize I needed to lean more on God, and trust that He would work through me," Candy says.

Connie, who has a M.S.W. from Washington University in St. Louis, is a counselor for the Family Support Network in St. Louis. She works with fifteen families, mostly single mothers, many of whom have some mental retardation. As part of a preventative program, she teaches parenting skills, connects clients with other services, does some individual counseling, and helps them set goals for their lives.

"We're trying to prevent child abuse and neglect by giving parents support and helping them handle the stress of their lives,"



Cindy ('78), Candy ('96), Connie ('91), and Crystal ('87) Holtrop gathered at Dordt to celebrate Candy's graduation on a cool, blustery May day. Cindy is a student at Calvin Theological Seminary. The others are all social workers.

she says.

"Change is difficult for anyone, but when you have people who live in tough situations and who have learned not to trust anyone, it is even harder," Connie says. Surviving, blaming others, and not taking responsibility are part of a natural defense system, but they make change difficult to achieve. "It's difficult not to be judgmental at times," she says. Yet she looks at herself and her own sin and realizes she's called to compassion, not judgment.

"I work hard at my job, but then I also work hard to leave it when I go home," she says. Spending time with friends and family, getting involved in healthy activities, and getting exercise are important for her to keep a balance in her life. For that reason she doesn't like to spend too much time talking about her work even when she is home with her social worker sisters.

Yet they are a support to one another. Crystal says she knows that she can talk to Connie when she needs to. But she also relies on others for that support. Crystal, who has her M.S.W. from the University of Iowa, and is a marriage and family therapist at Catholic Social Services in Davenport, Iowa, enjoys her work and is appreciative of the support available in her agency. She says the type of job makes a big difference on the degree of pressure a social worker feels.

"I see success and change as I work with a wide range of people from different socio-economic communities," she says. "I'm doing a lot of direct service, not a lot of paper pushing." She also doesn't face intense crises every day.

The Holtrop sisters share more than a career in social work, they also share an appreciation for the Dordt education that prepared them for their careers.

"Going to Dordt became a family thing," says Candy. "My sisters had all gone here and my parents were strong supporters."

She feels she gained a perspective from which to look at the world's problems.

Crystal adds, "I wanted a Christian liberal arts education and my older sister Cindy spoke highly of Dordt."

Connie says, "In college I began to understand how God infiltrates every part of my life so that today I keep looking for God's leading and try to better show his love to others."

Crystal admits that learning to live her Christian beliefs in her work is an ongoing process. "I think I understood some of what that meant in theory then, but as I see the power of the gospel to change people's life, I grow in my understanding of what it means to be a Christian social worker."

Both Connie and Crystal believe that their faith not only gives them the strength they need to face daily challenges, but also adds an important element to their counseling. Although they may not and do not "proselytize," being able to talk about forgiveness or being able to respond when a client talks about her faith allows them to make a connection that would not otherwise be possible. "Both clients and co-workers often see the difference it makes in my life," says Connie.

Candy, has learned much from her older sisters and is now ready to embark on her career. She is currently working with people with cerebral palsy at Village Northwest in Sheldon, Iowa. She is not yet sure whether she will go to graduate school this fall or work first for a year or two. But she is grateful for the sense of community she has experienced at Dordt and for the encouragement of her older sisters. And she is ready for the challenges ahead, resting on God's promises as she enters the field of social work.

“
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”

Alumni notes

70s

Al Smeenk ('73) was named Class B Coach of the Year for the state of Washington. Smeenk, who coaches basketball at Sunnyside Christian High School, coached his team to a second place finish in the state tournament.

Robert and Janine (Bootsma) Zomermaand ('74,'75) live in Lafayette, Indiana. Janine participated in the Lafayette Religious Arts Festival this year, displaying pottery and paintings reflecting important people, places, and ideas. Robert is pastor of Lafayette Christian Reformed Church.

William and **Susan (Kempema)** ('76) Bokhoven live in Ames, Iowa. Susan was recently named a "Citizen of the Year" for her work as a foster mother, a volunteer at Unity Christian Reformed Church, a board member and worker for Birthright, and a deliverer of "Meals on Wheels."

Ria (Brouwer) ('78) Lishman, in responding to the Flashback photo, says she has done lots of traveling (she's a travel consultant) since leaving Dordt. She's also gotten married, had four children (ages 1,3,5,7), and is now chairing the finance committee of the local Christian school.

80s

Janneke Vander Kooy ('81) is working with

Wycliffe Bible Translators in Cameroon, Central Africa. This past winter she participated in several courses and also traveled to Burkina Faso, West Africa, to evaluate four literacy projects. Janneke is looking forward to a trip to the Netherlands at the end of May.

Mark and Stephanie Jonker (ex'82) live in Bossier City, Louisiana. Mark is an elder in the Southern Pines Presbyterian Church and director of the Operations Louisiana Blood Center. Stephanie is a part-time registered nurse and homeschools their five children; Rosie, Calvin, Arie, Annelies, and Frits.

Karen (Verhagen) (ex'82) and Sid Doornbos live in Blackfalds, Alberta, with their children Leanne, 15; Harv, 13; Calvin, 11; Joel, 8; and Curtis, 7. They own and operate a dairy equipment company.

Roger Wallenburg ('83) was recently promoted to major on active duty. He was reassigned to the Army Reserve Personnel Command in St. Louis, Missouri, as the school quota management officer.

Margareth (Van Helden) ('83) and Wilbert Lise live in Woodbridge, Ontario, where Wilbert works on a dairy farm. Margareth is a full-time homemaker, busy caring for their four children: Angela, 5; Richard, 4; Patrick, 2; and Geoffrey, 4 mos. Margareth also works with the local Coffee Break ministry and the local Christian school board.

Art Knoop and **Edith Zuidhof-Knoop** (ex'85) live in Edson, Alberta. Edith is on maternity leave and hopes to return to work in October as Family Centre Coordinator for the town of Edson. Art works as a mechanic for a local automotive shop. They have two children: Janelle, 2, and Joel, 2 mo.

Elaine (Dykstra) ('85) and Roy De Groot live in

Anacortes, Washington. Roy is a fireman, and Elaine works part-time at the local hospital.

Marcia (De Vries) ('86) and Mike De Rousse own a ranch near Escalon, California. They have two daughters, Rae Ann and Cassidy.

Audrey (Kraayeveld) ('86) and Pete Brouwer live in Vancouver, Washington, where Pete is a trucker and Audrey works in an insurance business. They have one daughter, Joanne.

Arden and Deborah Postma ('86) live in Hudsonville, Michigan. Arden is a civil engineer, designing residential developments for Nederveld Associates, Inc. Deborah is a mathematics teacher.

Angela (Van Buren) and Kevin Haan ('88,'86) live in South Holland, Illinois. Kevin works for Merrill Lynch, and Angela is a part-time nurse who spends most of her time home with their four children: Amanda, Brittany, Jayson, and Stephanie.

Doreen (Brouwer) and Jim Broek ('87,'86) live in Escondido, California, where Jim operates a video production business, and Doreen works part-time for a concrete company. They have two boys, Joel and Spenser.

Elsie (de Jong) and Mark Bousema ('87,'86) raise and sell pigs in San Marcos, California. They have three boys, Jordan, Casey, and Thomas.

Cathy (Vander Wel) and Wil Brouwer ('87,'88) live in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where Wil is a systems administrator at Becker Enterprises. Cathy stays home with their three children: Christian, Jackie, and Erik.

Don and **Mae (Van Vuren)** ('86) Wunderink are currently in San Jose, Costa Rica, as short-term volunteer missionaries with Christian Reformed World Missions. They are both teaching English as a second language to children in grades one through five in Tepeyac Christian School. They and their three boys, Alex, 4, Lance, 2, and Calvin, 1, will return to the states in December, 1997.

Deb Walraven ('86) is living in Brampton, Ontario, where she works at Peel Memorial Hospital as a physiotherapist. She was involved in organizing the Eastern Canada Disability Conference held at Wilfrid Laurier University from May 10-12, 1996. Joni Eareckson Tada was key speaker for the conference titled "At the King's Table."

John and Christine Scheuers ('86) live on an acreage near Randolph, Wisconsin. John is sales manager and feed and livestock nutritionist at Dodge County Coop in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Chris is busy as a homemaker for their four children: Matthew, 9; Steven, 6; Nathanael, 3; and Elisabeth, 4 mo.

Laurie Ann De Stigter Thomas ('85) was one of the authors of an article published in the March 14 issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, "Identification of Brazil-Nut Allergen in Transgenic Soybeans." Thomas was a researcher on a team at Pioneer Hi-Bred International investigating whether scientists could improve the nutritional quality of soybeans by introducing a gene from Brazil nuts without increasing their allergenicity.

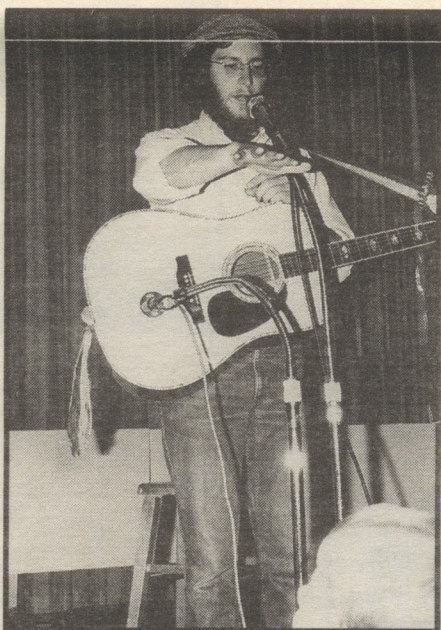
Soybeans by themselves do not offer a complete protein because they are deficient in methionine, one type of protein. Brazil nuts, on the other hand, are rich in methionine, but are known as an allergenic food.

The research done by Thomas and her colleagues showed that allergens can be transferred to other foods through genetic engineering. The implications for marketing and labeling of food are significant, since consumers who are prone to allergic reactions will need to know whether the food they buy have been genetically changed to contain allergens.

Send your letters, news, or suggestions to us at voice@dordt.edu.

Beth Brand ('78) wrote to tell us about the Newton Christian Crafter's Guild of which she is a member. Using their calligraphy skills and handmade paper, members of the group create one-of-a-kind cards to promote the school and to generate income for specific needs. The group meets once per month to share ideas and work together. Beth is enthused about this unique fundraising venture and encourages anyone who is interested in hearing more about their project to get in touch with her at 111 Emerson Hough Dr., Newton, Iowa 50208.

Flashback photos and letters



Spark any memories? Write us about them.

What a surprise I had this morning! I sat down with a cup of coffee, opened my issue of the *Voice* which arrived today and saw a picture of myself. The picture shows part of the *Signet* yearbook staff for the 1974-75 year.

I enjoy reading the *Voice*, especially the items on alumni. I often wonder about many of my former classmates. I pray the Lord has them in his safe keeping.

I've spent three-four hours today browsing through the old yearbook. Thanks for the memories.

Ria Brouwer Lishman ('78)

When I was reading the March edition of the *Voice*, I was surprised to find myself in the Flashback photo of the 70s. The same day I received the *Voice* I got a newsletter from our local mall with "Essentials for Spring and Summer," including mostly seventies styles.

Maybe we aren't as out of date as you think. Best wishes to you. Keep up the good work.

Susan Kempema Bokhoven ('76)

I'm writing to give you some information on the last Flashback photo. The person in the center of the first row is Anne Gietema. I don't know her married name. She lives in Ontario. The person on the right side of the first row is Annette Huizenga. She is a first grade teacher at Abbotsford Christian School in BC. She just got back from Mexico, where she took a youth group from her church to do mission work in Mexicali.

Thank you for the information you put in the *Voice* it's great to read what other alumni are doing. I really enjoy the Flashback pictures. Can you do more than one at a time? Keep up the good work.

Karen Doornbos (ex'82)





Pictured: back: Doreen and Jim Broek, Cathy and Will Brouwer front: Elaine De Groot, Elsie and Mark Bousema.

Cathy Brouwer writes,

Four of seven roommates got together in Copper Mountain, Colorado, for a ten-year reunion. We spent a long weekend catching up on each others lives and found we are still as close as we were when we lived together at Dordt. The three missing roommates (Marcia DeVries De Rousse, Audrey Kraayeveld Brouwer, and Angela Van Buren Haan) were unable to attend because they were all expecting babies. All three now have healthy, beautiful baby girls.

Gord and **Stephanie (Vander Wekken,** '87) Littell live in Agassiz, British Columbia. Gord works as a landscaper/gardener at Minter Gardens in Rosedale, B.C. Stephanie teaches grade 3 at Agassiz Christian School, but is presently on maternity leave to be home with Dawn, 2 1/2 and Kayla, 2 mo.

Mark and **Teresa (Weidenaar,** '87) Kredit moved to Manhatten, Montana, after living in Sioux Center for eight years. Mark owns his own electrical contracting business, and Teresa does accounting work for three different businesses. They have three children: Janae, 7; Matthew, 6; and Karsen, 1 mo.

John and Donna (De Jong) Fisher ('87,'87) live in Wyoming, Michigan. John is a program administrator at Wedgewood Christian Youth and Family Services. Donna is a homemaker and does medical transcription in their home.

Jeff and **Julie (Handlogten,** '88) Kuhl live in Wyoming, Michigan. Jeff sells and installs custom cultured marble bathrooms, and Julie sells and installs practice management software for medical and chiropractic doctors. The Kuhls have three children: Justin, 5; Jordan, 3; and Katelyn, 3mo.

Andy and Christy **Wierenga** ('89) live in Jacksonville, Florida. Christy is a Mary Kay consultant. Andy recently accepted a financial analyst position with the Prudential Insurance Company of America. They have two children: Kimberly, 4; and Andrew, 1 mo.

Sheldon and Julie (Iedema) Schelling ('89,'90) live in Sioux Falls, where Sheldon is working as a social worker at the VA hospital. Julie is at home with Tyler, 4, and Jordan, 3. Sheldon recently received a masters of social work from the University of Kentucky, and Julie a master of arts in elementary education from the University of Kentucky.

Kathy (Van Essen, '90) and her husband Ken Solomon live in Bellflower, California. Kathy is the director of social services for the Artesia Christian Home, and Ken is a computer programmer.

Brent Kooi ('91) is a resident director at Huntington College in Huntington, Indiana. He plans to spend the next three summers working on a master's degree in student affairs at Azusa Pacific University.

Dan and **Beth (Boender,** '92) Trumble live in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Dan works at Compassion International in the finance department. Beth teaches at Evangelical Christian Academy.

Bret Dorhout ('92) recently won several Music Teachers National Association competitions at the state, regional, and national levels. Bret is in his second year as a doctorate of musical arts candidate in organ performance and literature at the Eastman School of Music, where he also completed his master's degree.

John and Tina Van Dyk ('92) live in Ames, Iowa. John joined the Department of Entomology at Iowa State University as program coordinator. Tina is a laboratory technician at the Veterinary Medical Research Institute. The Van Dyks have a daughter, Julia Rose, 10 mos.

Jon and Eileen (Bakker) Buiter ('93, ex'93) live in New Brighton, Minnesota. Jon received his master of science in agricultural engineering from Iowa State in August, 1995, and now works as a mechanical engineer at Ellerbe Becket, an architectural and engineering consulting firm. Eileen received her bachelor of science degree in horticulture from Iowa State in December, 1995, and now works at Park Nursery as a plant salesperson.

Will and Michelle (Vander Ley, '93) Robison live in Cerritos, California. Will is a supervisor at Social Vocational Services in Long Beach, California. Michelle received her master of social work from California State University, Long Beach in May.

Kristie Terpstra ('93) earned a masters of science degree in water resources management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in December, 1995. She is currently employed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in Madison, Wisconsin.

Marriages

Beth Boender ('92) and Dan Trumble, 8/13/94.
Michelle Vander Ley ('93) and Will Robison, 1/5/96.
Jon Buiter ('93) and **Eileen Bakker** (ex'93), 7/1/95.

Future Defenders

Harlan and **Donna De Vries** ('74,'77), Derek Daniel, 4/11/96.
Don and **Pam Hansum** ('78), Emily, 3/96.
Bill and **Holli Dryfhout** ('80), Kendra Joy, 2/8/96.
Mark and **Stephanie Jonker** (ex'82), Frits Henry, 2/2/96.
Jeff and **Kathi (Vander Haak,** '82) Jansen, Wyatt Jeffrey, 7/19/95.
Michael and **Janice (Nieuwsma,** '82) Farritor, Lauren Ann, 4/29/96.
Margareth (Van Helden, '83) and Wilbert Lise, Geoffrey William, 1/23/96.
Kevin and **Rachel (Sybesma,** '83) Hansen, Sean Ryan, 10/13/95.
Doug and **Jennifer Attema** ('84), Caleb James, 3/26/96.
Gerald and **Pamela (Wind,** '84) Westervelt, Christopher John, 4/8/96.
Jim and **Shari (Ebels) Kemink** ('84,'84), Grant Harland, 4/2/96.
Doug and **Sue (Hiemstra,** '85) Olson, Rebekah Sue, 6/12/95.
Tom and **Carolyn (Verbrugge,** '85) Winegar, Megan Leigh and Jackson Thomas, 12/29/95.
Art Knoop and Edith Zuidhof-Knoop (ex'85), Joel Alexander, 3/21/96.
Steve and **Sharon (De Koning) Fopma** ('85,'85), Sarah Ann, 7/20/95.
Ed and **Jody (Faber) Bolkema** ('85,'86), Mitchell Jay, 9/23/95.
Paul and **Gail (Van Wyk) Van Beek** ('86,'86), Nicholas Paul, 3/29/96.
John and Christine **Scheuers** ('86), Elisabeth Rachel, 1/30/96.
Phil and **Joy (Gross) Grotenhuis** ('86,'86), Brielle Elena, 2/3/96.
Brian and **Anita (Gietema) Peterson** ('86,'86), Kyle Brian, 3/19/96.
Terry and **Jill (Brue) Friend** ('86,'88), Derek Anthony, 8/21/95.
Mark and **Elsie (de Jong) Bousema** ('86,'87), Thomas Mark, 1/20/96.
Michael and **Sandra (Van Soelen,** '87) **Vander Hart**, Andrew Neal, 4/13/96.
Dave and **Diane (Plantinga,** '87) Wever, Micah Joel, 12/21/95.
Mark and **Teresa (Weidenaar,** '87) Kredit, Karsen, 4/12/96.
Loren and **Elaine (Hoekstra,** '87) Tinklenberg, Madison Page, 2/10/96.
Rick and **Sandra (De Jager,** '87) Kwant, Samuel Roger, 1/29/96.
Gord and **Stephanie (Vander Wekken,** '87) Littell, Kayla Edythe Joy, 3/13/96.
Robert and **Julie (Kroese) Ribbens** ('87,'87), Jessica Ruth, 4/6/96.
Scott and **Jill (Kammel) Vander Maten** ('87,'87), Kali Christine, 4/12/96.
John and **Donna (De Jong) Fisher** ('87,'87), Morgan Rae, 1/13/96.
Brendan and **Jackie (Ton) Postman** ('87,'90), Bethany Karen, 5/1/96.
Kelan and **Alison (Boersma,** '88) Birnbaum, Jeremy Scott, 4/16/96.
Rancy and **Lisa (Hilbelink,** '88) Rowenhorst, Riley Ann, 5/14/96.
Jeff and **Julie (Handlogten,** '88) Kuhl, Katelyn Jo, 3/3/96.
Steve and **Dawn Peters** ('88), Jordan Douglas, 4/8/96.
Dan and **Amy (Nibbelink) Vande Pol** ('88,'93), Megan Beth, 2/11/96.
Dan and **Shelley Van Dyke** ('89), Dylan Kyle, 4/24/96.
Myron and **Jennie Kuipers** ('89), Jaime, 11/21/95.
Andrew and Christy **Wierenga** ('89), Andrew (Drew) Alan, 4/12/96.
Dana and **Linda (Grimmius) Sitzmann** ('89,'89), Ashley, 8/95.
John and **Sue (Schuring) Brouwer** ('89,'90), Jacob Matthew, 5/2/96.
Tim and **Vonda (Vander Pol) Brands** ('90,'90), Maria Christine, 3/18/96.
Tim and **Deb (Blik) Van't Hul** ('90,'90), Miranda Jean, 6/14/95.
Harry and **Dori (Grossmann) Groenendyk** ('90,'91), Jessan Peter, 4/1/96.
Wayne and **Sue (Theune) Dykstra** ('90,'92), Zachary James, 4/14/96.
Marc and **Sheri Geels** ('91), Shaniah Serene, 4/3/96.
Aaron and **Jill (Beran,** '91) Clark, Johnanna Elizabeth, 5/2/96.
Rod and **Dawn (Groothuis,** '91) Zomermaand, Tabitha Michele, 4/8/96.
Craig and **Teresa (Guthmiller) Eckels**, ('91,'92), Josiah William, 8/18/95.
Alden and **Kelley (Kaptein) Weg** ('91,'93), Nicholas James, 1/6/96.
Ethan and **Donna (Groenendyk) Brue** ('92,'91), Kinza Ellen, 2/10/96.
Mark and **Laura (Tebben) Blankespoor** ('92,'92) Leah Joy, 5/6/96.
Kyle and **Lisa (Wubben,** '92) Wynja, Keegan Dean, 3/8/96.
Brad and **Beth Ackerman** ('92), Cassandra Joy, 3/12/96.
Cory and **Loretta (Rasmussen,** '94) Jorgensen, Jordan Michael, 2/19/96.
Bao and **My-Uyen (Cao,** '93) Tran, Kaitlyn Quynh, 8/26/95.
Clifford and **Kristi (Vander Meer,** '94) Lim, Miranda Kay, 3/25/96.
Jarret and **Kristi (Kooiker) Eshuis** ('95,ex'97), Jessica Ruth, 4/21/96.
Rian and **Gwen (Kuiper,** '96) Vos, G. Evan Michael, 4/15/96.

Correction

Brian and **Sharla (Eisma,** '84) Gradert, Kolton Quinn, 10/2/95.

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPING

We at Dordt College are interested in hearing how you are doing and what kinds of events are happening in your life. Please fill out the coupon below and mail to: Alumni Association, Dordt College, 498 4th Ave. NE, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250

<input type="checkbox"/> Marriage	<input type="checkbox"/> Future Defenders	<input type="checkbox"/> Address
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Name _____		
Year _____ Address _____		
News Items/Suggestion(s) _____		

Mark your calendar!

June 28-30
Reunion '96

A weekend of fun, learning, and camaraderie for alumni and families from the classes of '86, '81, '76, '71, and '66. Tours, educational workshops, class socials, children's activities, recreation, and more.

June 29
Dr. Hulst
Retirement
Celebration

Friends of Dordt College are encouraged to join the college community in recognizing Dr. Hulst's 28 years of service to Dordt. The evening will include a program at 7:30 p.m., held at Sioux Center First CRC due to redecorating of the B.J. Haan Auditorium. An open-house reception will follow from 8:45-10:30 p.m. in West Commons.

October 18
Presidential
Inauguration

Friends of Dordt College are invited to attend the inauguration of Dr. Carl E. Zylstra as third president of Dordt College at 1:30 p.m. in the B.J. Haan Auditorium.

October 18-19
Parents Weekend

This is the big event of the year for all parents of Dordt students. The weekend includes the annual Fall Festival of Music, President's Brunch, model classes, soccer and volleyball, a theatre production, and more.

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The Voice, an outreach of Dordt College, is sent to you as alumni and friends of Christian higher education. The Voice is published in October, December, March and May to share information about the programs, activities, and needs of the college. Send address corrections and correspondence to VOICE, Dordt College, 498 Fourth Ave. NE, Sioux Center, IA 51250-1697.

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as theatre
sound designer
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Vice President for
Student Affairs
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Social work
becomes family
tradition
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